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# Story of Council Grove

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## Santa Fe Trail

Second Edition

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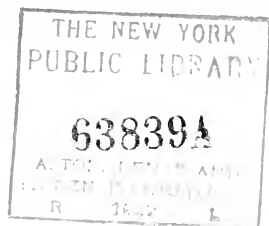
# The Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail

*And History  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Opening of Trail.  
See pp 138-168.*

By Lalla Maloy Brigham

*Presented to New York City  
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Kansas.  
See pp. 98-100*

1921



## Dedication

### TO THE PIONEERS OF COUNCIL GROVE:

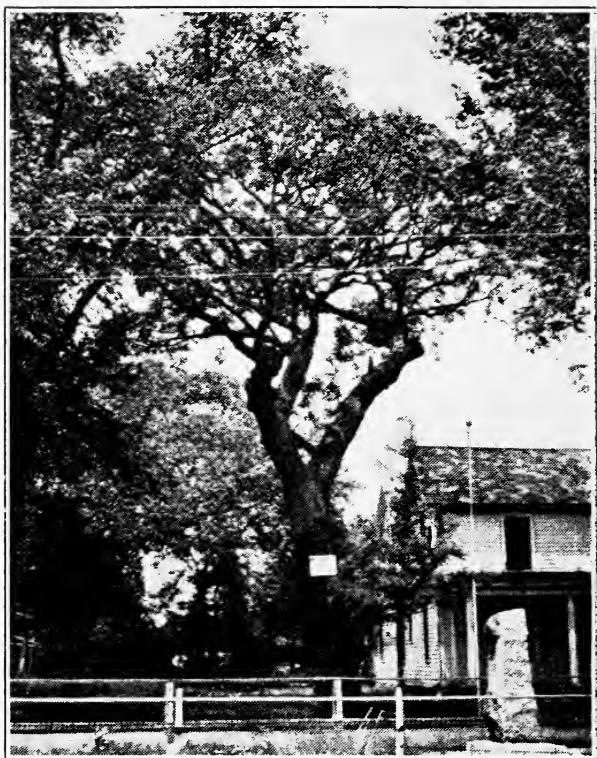
Permit me to dedicate this "Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail" to the early settlers who have been familiar with all the transpiring events connected with its history. To you who were identified with all the activities pertaining to the upbuilding of Council Grove and to the memory of the departed pioneers, who by their courage and sacrifice laid the foundation of our town, this story is respectfully inscribed.

# Introduction

The information herein contained has been secured from various sources. From my father, John Maloy's History of Morris County, written and published three different times—in 1876, 1886 and 1891—I have collected the greater part of my data. As it was his desire to perpetuate the history of the town, I have endeavored to carry out his wishes by collecting in book form all events of historical nature and incidents relating to the people connected with the growth of the town.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. R. M. Armstrong, who has shared with me his correct knowledge of dates and given me the benefit of his wonderful fund of reminiscence. Also to Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse, of Topeka, for allowing me the use of his valuable writings for reference, and for his research in the Kansas Historical Library for proof of some of the incidents in this story. Both of these gentlemen and many of our citizens have been loyal supporters of my efforts to perpetuate Council Grove history for future generations.

LALLA M. BRIGHAM.



### COUNCIL OAK

The Council of three United States Commissioners and the chiefs of the Great and Little Osage Indians took place under this Council Oak August 10, 1825. Council Grove received its name at this Council.

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Council Grove, Council Grove!  
Fair city of most modern ways.  
You must not scorn those homespun days;  
For through the hardships of that age  
Thy name shines bright on history's page.  
Let future ages wax and wane,  
But not forget thy charming name;  
Nor "Council Oak"—that grand old tree,  
The first to give that name to thee—  
Council Grove!

—George Pierson Morehouse.

## CHAPTER I

In the shadowy background of territorial history, when Kansas was a part of that vast domain known as Louisiana Territory, our earliest explorers passed through Morris county and the counties adjoining. Whether their trails led them through what is now Council Grove is not known. Coronado in 1542 gave the Spanish the first sight of our prairies. Du Tisne, a Frenchman, led a party of explorers through Morris county in 1719. He crossed Coronado's route at Fort Riley. It is not known how long Indian trails led to Council Grove before the removal of the Kaws to the reservation adjoining it in 1847. The land belonged to the Osages before this date. The crossing where the Main street bridge now stands seemed to have been known by white men early in the nineteenth century, as a Frenchman named LaLande passed this ford in 1804, and another man named Purcell camped here in 1805. They were supposed to be on their way to Santa Fe, or more likely they were trying to find a route to New Mexico. An authentic account of this crossing is given by Dr. Connolly, of Kentucky, who in 1828 passed through here and stopped to make a rough survey of a shorter route to New Mexico. In 1821, history tells us, a small pack train fitted out by a man named William Becknell started from Franklin, Howard county, Missouri. In 1824 another party left the same place for New Mexico, and Josiah Gregg in his article, "Commerce of the Prairies," says both of these expeditions were successful, and both of them followed the trail that led them through Council Grove. The report of the 1821 and 1824 expeditions to Congress that a wonderful trade opportunity existed in Santa Fe, led to an appropriation for a survey of a route to New Mexico. In March, 1825, the Congress of the United States of America passed an act to authorize the President of the United States to cause a road to be marked from the western frontier of Missouri to the confines of New Mexico, and they also authorized the President to appoint three commissioners to carry out said act and gain the consent of the Indians. President John Quincy Adams appointed Benjamin Reeves, George C. Sibley and Thomas Mathers. These commissioners left St. Louis in June, 1825, and on August 10, 1825, met the chiefs of the Great and Little Osage Nations at Council Grove on the Neo Zho, 160 miles from

Fort Osage. At this treaty \$800.00 was paid the Osage Indians for right-of-way through their territory for this road to New Mexico. The treaty was signed by the commissioners, the secretary, surveyor, interpreter, and fifteen other white men, besides Pa-hu-skah (or White Hair), head chief of the Great Osages, and Watonga, head chief of the Little Osages, and five other chiefs and nine warriors. This treaty took place under the "Council Oak," one of our historic landmarks. This old oak tree is one of the relics of the old "oak grove," and stands in the yard of C. W. Crimm in East Council Grove. It is an imposing tree and still is in a splendid state of preservation, and corresponds most accurately to the measurements given in the records of the 1825 survey of the Santa Fe Trail. This tree measures ten feet nine inches in circumference.

August 16, 1825, six days after the council met under the famous oak in Council Grove, the same commissioners went to Turkey Creek, McPherson county, and held a treaty with the Kaws. The Kaw treaty was an exact duplicate of the one held here with the Osages, except it was signed by the chiefs and warriors of the Kaw tribe, and the treaty here was signed by chiefs and warriors of the Osage tribes.

In 1906 the Daughters of the American Revolution and the State of Kansas began to mark the route across the state with substantial granite monuments. This led to a number of historic celebrations at different points during that year and during 1907.

The most noted of these "Trail celebrations" was held at Council Grove August 10, 1907, when the monument was placed and dedicated in the parking just opposite the "Council Oak." This being the most important historic spot in Kansas on the Trail, a special inscription was carved upon this monument, mentioning the treaty and council held here on the 10th day of August, 1825, just 82 years before this celebration.

Secretary George W. Martin and Senator George P. Morehouse, both of the State Historical Society, were the speakers on this occasion, and a full report of their addresses was published in the papers and in the publications of the State Historical Society. During the day there was a grand historical parade, which embraced every phase of Trail life from ox wagons, stage coach, pony express, cow boys, hunters, plainsmen, and ending with modern carriages and automobiles.

Before setting the monument, a metal history box was imbedded in the cement beneath. The box was filled with past and present historical data, maps, pictures, pamphlets, papers, manuscripts and relics. The key to the box was deposited with the Kansas State Historical Society, and the box is to be opened in 2007 A. D.

This "grove" at that time was an extensive and dense forest of hardwood trees and covered a large part of the bottom east of the river. It was a noted sheltered spot and a very suitable place in which to hold the council between the United States commissioners and the Indians for the right-of-way of the Santa Fe Trail across the Great Plains; and it was this incident of holding the council that led to naming the place Council Grove. Some writers claim that the Neosho ford of the Santa Fe Trail was known as "The Grove" and "Neosho Crossing," and that Indian councils and councils between freighters and Indian guides gave it the title before the treaty of 1825; but it has been proven by Congressional records and surveyors' reports that Council Grove derived its name from the council held August 10, 1825, at which time the Trail treaty was signed. George C. Sibley, one of the three United States commissioners of that event, in describing the affair years afterward, says that he gave it that name and had "Big John" Walker, one of his men, carve the name of Council Grove on a large oak tree standing near their tent. It will thus be seen that this important event in the history of the Santa Fe Trail and the State of Kansas can be celebrated with an one hundredth anniversary celebration in just four years. It will be the third centennial ever held in Kansas and should be made a great event in the history of the state.

Before the dawn of Council Grove history, when the "Ships of the Prairie" (the covered wagons) plied their lonely way through Kansas, this "Neosho Crossing," with its abundance of water and the surrounding timber, was a boon to the weary traveler. Josiah Gregg, in 1845, wrote an article on his first trip to Santa Fe in 1831, and speaks of Council Grove as a fine stopping place. This caravan, the writer says, consisted of nearly one hundred wagons, pack mules, hacks, and other small vehicles, and two small cannons. They had \$200,000.00 worth of merchandise and this must have been the first large caravan that went west. He says they stopped at Council

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

Grove to procure timber for axle trees and other wagon repairs which they lashed under the wagons. As this point furnished the last timber such as they used for these repairs, they had to supply themselves with enough to last them from Council Grove to New Mexico and back to Council Grove again. Dr. Gregg says:

"Unless the imposing title Council Grove suggests to the readers a thriving village, it should be observed that on the day of our departure from Independence we passed the last human abode upon our route, therefore from the borders of Missouri to those of New Mexico not even an Indian settlement greeted our eyes."

He spoke of the Neosho river, an Indian name meaning "wet bottoms," and of Council Grove creek, now Elm creek. He described the beauty and fertility of the valley.

Tradition tells us that in 1827 Kit Carson cut the name Council Grove on a buffalo hide and nailed it to a tree.

During the years when the Santa Fe trade was being built up, this Neosho crossing was the meeting place for the organization of long caravans. Often several companies went together for protection, so for many years before the first white man located here, this crossing was a rendezvous for freighters. Records tell us that Marcus Whitman, a Presbyterian missionary, passed through here in 1842 on his way from Oregon to Washington, D. C. In 1846 Colonel Doniphan and Sterling Price passed through Council Grove on their way to the Mexican War..

In 1847, by a treaty with the Government, a tract of land twenty miles square, with Council Grove in the center, was acquired for the Kansas, or Kaw, tribe of Indians. This was called the Kaw Reservation, and the Indians were moved here in 1847. The Kaw tribe at that time numbered 1,700.

Up to 1847, not a white person had located here, and only Indians, interpreters and freighters had camped in this locality. Seth M. Hays was the first white man to locate here. He came in 1847 and built the first log cabin on the site of the Hays House, or present Arway Hotel. He came from Westport, Mo., with a license from the United States Government to trade with the Indians. Pierre and Crypian Choteau (two French and Indian brothers) located here soon after Mr. Hays came. A man named Kennedy came in 1849. In 1848 a Mr. Owen dug the well which was for so many years our public well. It was in the center of the street between Durland & White's store and



SETH HAYS

First White Settler—1847

the Farmers and Drovers Bank. The well was dug for the Choteau Brothers, whose store was a log house on the Durland & White corner. This same man helped build the Mission. A few years later Mr. Owen told the story of a cannon which was buried in the Neosho river bed at the mouth of Elm creek. An Indian boy found it in 1849 and a Government blacksmith excavated it. It was a 12-pound brass piece, cast in Philadelphia in 1776. It was never known how it came to be buried there, unless the Indians captured it from some caravan and sought to destroy evidence of their plunder. It was taken to Salt Lake City and placed in a museum.

Another item of history which proves that the Neosho crossing had been used early in the century was the finding of an old fashioned wagon jack screw imbedded in the trunk of a cottonwood tree near where the Main street bridge now stands. A party of soldiers passing through here in the winter of 1847-48 cut the tree down and found the jack screw. It had undoubtedly been left against the tree by some early exploring party and forgotten. The stump measured four feet across.



## CHAPTER II

The Government in 1849 established a mail route to New Mexico. Council Grove was the most important station on the 700-mile journey. In 1849 the Board of Missions of the M. E. church, South, accepted a proposition from the Government to build and maintain a school among the Kaw Indians. T. S. Huffaker was sent here as teacher of the school. In 1850 the building was completed and the school established. In 1850 Mrs. Eliza Mitchell, the wife of a Government blacksmith, was the first white woman to locate in Council Grove or Morris county. They remained a short time and were followed by Emanuel Mosier and family, Mr. Mosier succeeded Mitchell as blacksmith. One of these Government blacksmith shops was located on the site of the Gildemeister home. In 1900, when they excavated for the front part, all kinds of blacksmith tools were found. Mr. Mosier's wife's brothers, A. J. and Josh Baker, and her two sisters, Mrs. Eli Sewell and Eliza Baker, who afterward married T. S. Huffaker, came early in 1851. Their mother, Mrs. Baker, came with them. Several log cabins were built, and Mosier's 1st and 2nd Additions to Council Grove were named for Emanuel Mosier, as his log cabin was located on that piece of ground. The Baker brothers and Eli Sewell were active in the early Indian trade, and during their residence here participated in many lines of business. Mr. Josh Baker lived here until his death a few years ago. His widow, Mrs. Lida Baker, and his daughter, Mrs. Ernest Foreman, and son, Preston Baker, are still all residents of Morris county. Two other daughters, Mrs. Clifford Axe and Mrs. Lloyd Peterson, lived here until recently.

In 1850 the Government erected a building on the corner of Wood and Main streets for grain supplies. The Mail Company built a chinked log house on the present site of the Farmers and Drovers Bank. The period from 1849 to 1854 was a very prosperous time for Council Grove. It was the last point going west at which supplies could be obtained. The Withington Bros., S. M. Hays, Choteau Bros., A. J. and Josh Baker, E. Mosier and Christopher Columbia constituted the business population of the town until 1854. That year the Territory of Kansas was organized and Governor Reeder visited Council Grove with the view of making it the territorial capital, but no

treaty could be made with the Indians. The first representative elected from this part of the territory, which included Wise county, as Morris county was then called, was A. J. Baker. He received his certificate of election from the Governor but a border ruffian from Missouri contested the election and won. During the time of Council Grove's early history up to 1855, when only the Mission, mail and grain buildings and a few log cabins were scattered here and there, we ponder over the landscape that greeted the eyes of the freighters as they came in long lines from the east, and imagine the steep banks of the Neosho crossing and the hazardous attempt they must have made to reach the other side. Sometimes when the river was up they would have to camp for days before being able to cross. The present Main street was a mere trail. The ox and mule teams made this same thoroughfare present a very different scene from what it is today.

The few people who lived here before 1855 were always wary of Indian raids. Up to this time the only trade was with the Indians and freighters. The people who made history for Council Grove during the early years, and who have passed on to their reward, will be mentioned in this article.

Seth M. Hays, who was the first settler and built the first house, was born in Kentucky and was a descendant of Daniel Boone. He built several houses in Council Grove, and was in many kinds of business. The first log house was his home and government supply house for several years. In 1857 he built the Hays House, the present Arway Hotel.

Court was first held in this log house in 1858, and then in the attic of the Hays House above the store. Mr. Hays built a little brick house back of the present laundry site in 1860. This was his home for many years. About 1866 he built the brick house now owned by A. J. Marks, and occupied it the last few years of his life. He never married, but his home was kept by his slave, Aunt Sallie, as she was known to everyone in Council Grove. She was the only slave ever brought to Council Grove. When Kansas was admitted as a free state she received her freedom, but continued to care for Mr. Hays' home until her death in 1872. Mr. Hays had provided for her in his will. The people of Council Grove honored her memory by attending her funeral, which was held in Mr. Hays' home, the A. J. Marks property. Mr. Hays died in 1873. He had accumulated con-

siderable property, which he left to his foster daughter, Kittie Robbins Hays, who is a sister of Mrs. B. C. Painter. He was a generous, kind-hearted man, and bestowed an abundance of love on this motherless little girl. Mr. Hays was one of the first old settlers to pass away, and was mourned by a host of friends. Seth Crowley, one of our citizens, was named for Seth Hays.

No man associated with Council Grove was more a part of it than T. S. Huffaker. He came in 1849 and until his death in 1910 lived here continuously. He lived in Council Grove through three generations. His strong personality left a permanent imprint in business, social and religious affairs, which will be felt in the community for years to come. He came as an Indian teacher and taught in the Mission until 1854, when the Indian school was abandoned. There being no school for the white children here, he organized them into a school in May, 1851, and taught them at the Mission. This was the first white school in Kansas. His marriage to Eliza Ann Baker May 6, 1852, was the first marriage of white people in Council Grove. They were married in the Mission by Rev. Nicholson, a missionary, who happened to be here at that time. Their daughter, Susie, born July 4, 1853, was the first white child born in Council Grove. The Huffaker family lived in the Mission for many years after the closing of the school. Susie, Mary, Agnes, Fannie and George Huffaker were born in the Mission; Anna, Carl and Homer, and two who died in infancy were born in the home across from the Mission. This home, which is now owned by C. L. Alden, is of Southern type and spoke the hospitality of the Huffaker family. It was owned for a number of years by their daughter, Mrs. Carpenter, and the father and mother celebrated their fifty-third wedding anniversary there in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Huffaker had conducted one of the first Sunday schools in Kansas in the Mission. Both were active in the organization of the M. E. church, South, and gave the lot on which the little brick church stood for fifty years. Mr. Huffaker held many positions of honor. He was active in Indian affairs, served twice in the legislature, was one of the first regents of the Kansas State Normal, and was probate judge several terms. He met with great financial losses, and there were grief-stricken years when their children were taken from them, but they met adversity with that glorious spirit which makes the

kind of citizens our country calls for. Mr. Huffaker died July 16, 1910. Mrs. Carpenter, the daughter, having sold the old homestead across the Neosho river, bought the Mission in 1911, and resided there until her death April 12, 1921. Mrs. Huffaker spent the declining years of her life in the Mission, and passed away July 5, 1920, in the room in which she was married sixty-eight years before. Thus ended the lives of Council Grove's two worthy pioneers, whose years beside the banks of the Neosho were fraught with so much joy, sorrow and tragedy. To the descendants of these worthy people no better heritage could be given than the knowledge of their father's and mother's integrity and standing in this community. The gentleness and spirit of peace that always pervaded their presence is a hallowed memory to all their friends.

Christopher Columbia and family came here in 1852 and were soon followed by Charles Columbia. They were a part of the early history of the town. Christopher Columbia was the first man to locate on a farm near Council Grove, and, his daughter, Anna Columbia, was the first white child born in Morris county outside of Council Grove.

James Phinney, a brother-in-law of the Columbia's, came in 1858, and lived here until his death in 1882. A daughter, Mrs. Inez Crary, lives in McPherson, Kansas. Mrs. Phinney and three daughters have died since moving from Council Grove.

Connected with the history of Council Grove from the early 50's, no name was better known than that of G. M. Simcock. He located here in 1852 and engaged in trading with the Indians. He married Mary White in 1854. They lived in a log cabin where the stone store now stands. Albert Simcock was born in this house in September, 1857. They moved to another log house on the site of the Council Grove National Bank. George Simcock was born there. They built the Simcock house, now known as the Marks Flats, and lived there many years. Mr. Simcock was at one time in partnership with Seth Hays. He owned part of the Mathers Mill, and during his residence here was engaged in various successful business ventures and held many positions of honor. He died in 1886. His son, Albert Simcock, lived here fifty years and is now a resident of Kansas City, Missouri. George Simcock lives in Wichita.

Wes and James Simcock, two half-brothers of G. M. Sim-

cock, lived here for many years and were successful business men.

James A. Robbins, father of Mrs. B. C. Painter, located in Council Grove in 1854. He had charge of the Overland Stage and Mail Route, and lived in the Mail building, a log house on the Farmers and Drovers Bank site. He had a large family. Only two of them are living, Mrs. B. C. Painter and Mrs. Kittie Hays Houghton. Mr. Robbins' wife died in 1862. Gus Robbins, his son, was very prominent in business in Council Grove in the 60's. He was one of the partners of F. Lederick. James A. Robbins was justice of the peace many years and county clerk two terms. He died in 1868. Gus Robbins, his son, died twenty years ago.

The people had been getting their mail at the Mail Station until 1855, when a postoffice was established in Council Grove. G. M. Simcock was appointed postmaster, but refused to qualify, and Mr. Huffaker was appointed. There was no building for the postoffice at that time, so Mr. Huffaker took the sack and distributed the mail on the street or would go into a store and empty the contents on the floor and give everyone a chance to get their own mail. The salary was two dollars a year, but Mr. Huffaker never collected it.

In 1857 the building occupied by Mrs. Wm. Tolbert as a residence, was built by Tom Hill and used as a store. The postoffice was located in this building for several years. This store was called the "Last Chance." For a while it was a Government trading house. Tom Hill and his wife, Lucy Hill, had come here from the New England States. They lived here a few years and then moved to Americus.

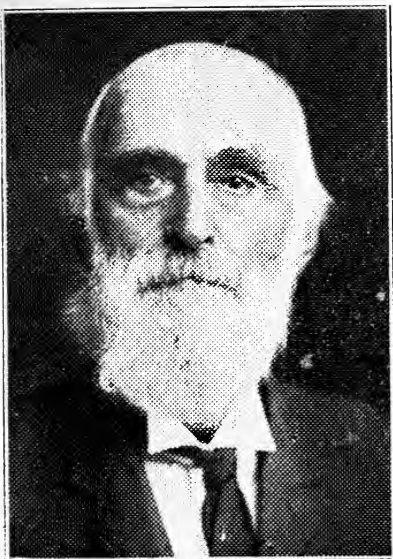
J. H. Foster, who has lived here since the early days, passed through Council Grove in May, 1849, with a caravan of freighters. They were three months getting from Kansas City to Santa Fe. At that time there was only one house on the trail between Kansas City and Council Grove. That house was 110 miles this side of Kansas City, and a man named Bowles and his Indian wife lived in it. There were only a few log cabins west of the Main street bridge at that time. When they reached the Arkansas river crossing, the freighters were kept in camp three days by Indians. They expected to be killed any moment, and were just getting ready to give up when another

band of freighters came into view. The Indians, thinking they were United States soldiers, fled. In 1863 Mr. Foster, with Company F, 2nd Colorado, was stationed in Council Grove. The soldiers ate and slept in the little stone store, now the Tolbert house. In 1863 the last house the freighters passed going west was the Terwilliger house (now the Rouse home). Mr. Foster had many thrilling experiences, both with the army and in freighting. He lived in Council Grove until recently, when he went to California to make his home with his daughter.

District court was organized in 1858. The first sheriff was W. B. Harrold. He was appointed by the Territorial Government. The town of Council Grove was formed in 1854, under territorial laws. There were about sixty white people here at the time. Council Grove ranks fourth in Kansas as an early settlement which afterward became a town. The town company was organized in 1857. T. S. Huffaker, Seth M. Hays, Chris Columbia, Hiram Northrup, W. D. Harris, S. P. Keller, Crypian Choteau, Fred Choteau and G. M. Simcock were the Town Company. It was incorporated in 1858.

A man named Jacob Hall claimed he had the right to pre-empt the land on which Council Grove was located. His claim was based on a law giving mail contractors a right to pre-empt a section every twenty miles for stage and mail stations. The town site controversy was the first fight in the town's history. It was not settled until 1877, when it was dismissed by the United States Circuit Court in favor of Council Grove. In August, 1859, the Morris County Frontier Rifle Guards were organized for protection from any possible attacks by Indians.

The present Commercial House was built in 1859 by Charles Gilke. This hotel was called the Gilke House.



T. S. HUFFAKER

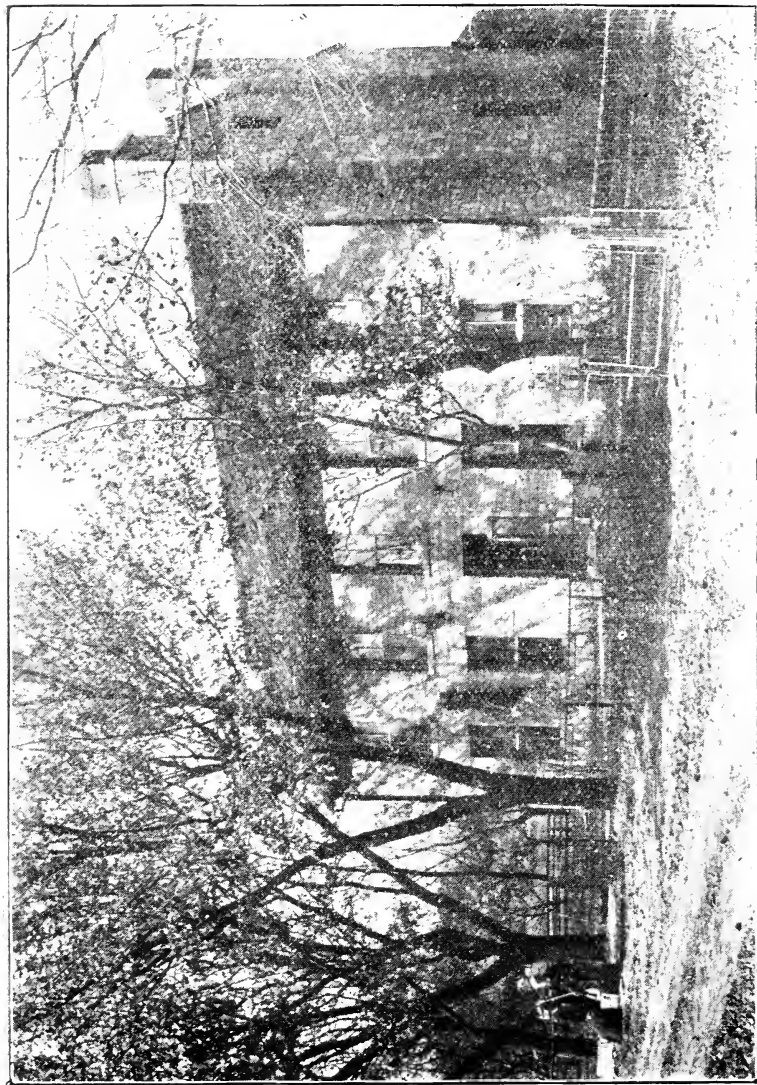


MRS. T. S. HUFFAKER



SUSIE HUFFAKER

First White Child Born in Council Grove



## CHAPTER III

In 1859-60, when Morris county had less than 600 people, there were two events the early settlers never forgot—the Indian raid of 1859 and the drought of 1860.

June 2, 1859, about 8 o'clock in the morning, ninety warriors of the Kaw tribe, painted and feathered, rode down Main street from the west, and halted in front of the Hays House. Two horses had been stolen by the Indians from a Mexican trader. Mr. Hays had sent them word to return the horses and surrender the Indian thieves. Mr. Hays fired two revolvers, intending to frighten them, but it only incited rebellion among them. They fired their guns and arrows promiscuously and shot a man named Parks, who happened to be near. An arrow struck Charles Gilke in the breast. Both recovered. Mr. Huffaker, who was interpreter for the Kaws, happened to be near and persuaded them to leave at once. The Indians were then camped on the hills just south of town, near the Indian Guide. At noon their camp was moved over to Four Mile, where they could better defend themselves. By 12 o'clock the citizens had organized for protection. The women and children were barricaded in the Mission. There were only forty armed men and as there were 400 armed Indians, they knew it was useless to try to defend an attack. Judge Huffaker went to the chief, Ah-le-goh-wah-ho, and asked him to surrender the Indians who shot Parks and Gilke. They turned over the one who shot Parks, but claimed they didn't know who shot Gilke. It happened to be one of the council with whom Judge Huffaker was conferring who shot Gilke, and he left the council, thinking the chiefs were going to turn him over to Mr. Huffaker. This Indian tried to stir up strife among the Indians, and proposed that they massacre both their chiefs and Mr. Huffaker. He failed in this, and was turned over to Judge Huffaker. The two Indians were brought to town and hung from the wagon shop of James Phinney. This shop was located on the present site of the Trail Garage. Robert Rochford hauled the dead Indians out to their camp. The Indians began their ceremony for the dead, which frightened the ox team. It was some time before they could be stopped, as the wagon was going around in a circle. When their heads were

finally turned toward Council Grove, they never stopped until they reached Elm creek. Mr. Rochford had located on the reservation in 1857, and he lived to a ripe old age, and had many and varied experiences, but the thrill of this Indian incident remained with him until the end of his days. He could easily verify the statement that "the only good Indian is a dead Indian."

The Chief Ah-le-goh-wah-ho lived here many years after this attack. He was intelligent and sociable, but had an uncontrollable temper when his anger was once aroused. Judge Huffaker's courage and tact probably saved the lives of the inhabitants at this time.

As early as 1851 corn was planted on the Huffaker farm for the benefit of the Indian school. Each succeeding year more corn was planted in this locality. The drought of 1860 left the residents here in a hopeless condition. Aid that should have reached them failed to do so. While trade with Mexico was good it benefited only a few. The pioneers of 1860 tasted the real privations that come to those who blaze the trail.

From 1855 to 1860 many new people arrived. Malcolm Conn, one of the best known merchants of the early days, arrived here in 1855. He built the corner stone store in 1858, and owned it for many years. He was a prosperous business man and was well liked by all with whom he came in contact. He was a county officer several times. W. H. White clerked for him when he was in business in the stone store. Mr. Conn's first wife was a Miss Stevenson, who taught school in the Mission. She died some years later, and was the first person buried in Greenwood Cemetery. The monument erected to her memory was the first placed in the cemetery. He married his second wife in 1870. She was Miss Mathilda Pillsbury, a cousin of Major Stover. She is still living in Council Grove. Mr. Conn died in 1898. For a number of years previous to his death the family lived in Lawrence and Kansas City.

The three Bradford brothers, Dr. John, William and Dr. J. H. Bradford, came here between 1855 and 1860. Dr. John and Dr. J. H. Bradford were Council Grove's first doctors. Dr. John Bradford built the Shamleffer house. He died in 1866. The Bradford brothers built the Bradford Mill, and two of

them were active in the M. E. church, South, William Bradford being a minister.

A. J. Collier and Allen Crowley were counted as old settlers when a photo was taken about 1880 of a group of men who lived here in the 50's. Both had farming interests near town and were closely connected in business and church relations, being active in the M. E. church, South. Mr. Collier held several county offices. Mr. Crowley has one son, Seth Crowley, and one daughter, Mrs. Will Welch, living here now. One daughter of Mr. Collier, Mrs. George Phillips, is residing here at this time.

Thomas White, father of W. H. White and Mrs. Fannie Wright, came to Council Grove in 1857. He surveyed the town site in 1858. He died in 1864. His son, W. H. White, has lived here continuously since 1857, and he and John Allen are the only survivors of the people who came here in 1857 and who are still residing here. In fact, they lived here at an earlier date than any other persons living here now. Mr. White is the only person living here who attended school in the Brown Jug the first year it was built, in 1858. He is a successful farmer and financier. He was married to Miss Sarah Hammond March 8, 1874. His son, Clarence H., lives on the old Allen Crowley farm, and W. H. White, Jr., lives on the old homestead once owned by Thomas White.

Wm. White, Sr., father of Dr. J. W. White and cousin of W. H. White, came in May, 1856, in company with Chris Strieby and five other men. He settled north of town on what is known as the Doran farm. Later he moved to his farm near Ritchie school house, where he lived until his death in 1909. He married Bettie Stevenson, and they were always known as Aunt Bettie and Uncle Billie. Their son, Dr. J. W. White, has always lived in Council Grove. A daughter, Mrs. Brooks, lived near their old farm until the past spring, when she moved to Council Grove.

Hiram Allen, father of John and Tom Allen, came here in 1857. They lived on the reservation below town four years. They moved in 1864 to a farm near the round house. This was known as the Mansfield farm. Tom Allen was born in Council Grove in 1860. They attended the little school house which was located where the Missouri Pacific depot now stands. They are the only people living in Council Grove at the present time who attended this school.

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

Tom Collins was one of the many pioneers who came in 1866. He lived in town several years and on a farm north of town for a long time. His son, Fletcher Collins, is still a resident of our town.

William Lane belonged to the 1850 settlers. He lived in the country part of the time. He was constable several years and under sheriff for two terms. His son, Brooks Lane, is living in Council Grove.

George Biglin lived here from 1857 to 1865. In that year he located on a farm near Alta Vista, where he spent the remainder of his life. While a resident of Council Grove he was a merchant. He married a Miss Whitsett in 1859. Her father was a partner of Chris Strieby and they built the stone blacksmith shop in 1860. It stood for 60 years and was torn down in 1920 to make way for a garage. Mr. and Mrs. Biglin lived in a little house where the Cottage Hotel now stands. Martin Biglin was born there. Last year Mrs. Biglin and Martin returned to Council Grove to make their home.

Phil Morse, who came here in 1858, did the stone work on the stone store on the corner and on other stone buildings erected during the next few years. The Pollard brothers, Abraham, William and Charles, came in 1859. Abraham Pollard did brick building and stone work. William kept a livery barn. Abe and William married sisters. William Pollard moved to the Pollard farm in 1867. They had eleven children. Only the daughter, Mrs. Frank E. Pirtle, is living in Council Grove. Mrs. Pollard is now Mrs. H. C. Wilson.

Mrs. W. F. Shameffer came here with her father, Harvey Munkres, in 1858. She and Mrs. Biglin are the only women living in Council Grove whose residence dates back of 1860. The Munkres family lived on a farm north of town. Mrs. Shamleffer's sisters, Mrs. Joab Spencer, now of Kansas City; Mrs. John Hamilton, of Colorado, and Mrs. Baer, of Olathe, are all living. A brother, George Munkres, lives in Wyoming. Mrs. Shamleffer and her sisters were among the belles of the 60's and were quite prominent in the early day social affairs.

Warren Johnson lived here in the 50's and was a partner of Charles Columbia. After a few years he moved to a farm near Alta Vista. He died in Council Grove in 1916. His son, George Johnson, now a resident of Council Grove, was born on the

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

farm in July, 1859, and is the oldest man now living, born in Morris county and still residing here. Mrs. J. Roswurm is a daughter of Warren Johnson.

W. J. McGeorge made several trips, in the 60's, over the Santa Fe Trail as a freighter. He remembers when the Trail passed in front of the Crimm house, by the Council Oak, and then north of Mrs. Metzger's and crossed the Neosho north of the Main street bridge. He brought his family here in 1871.

Joe Watts is another old settler, as he came to Council Grove in the 50's. He lives on a farm northeast of town. Watts school house was among the first in the county. The South Methodists had a class there in the late 50's.

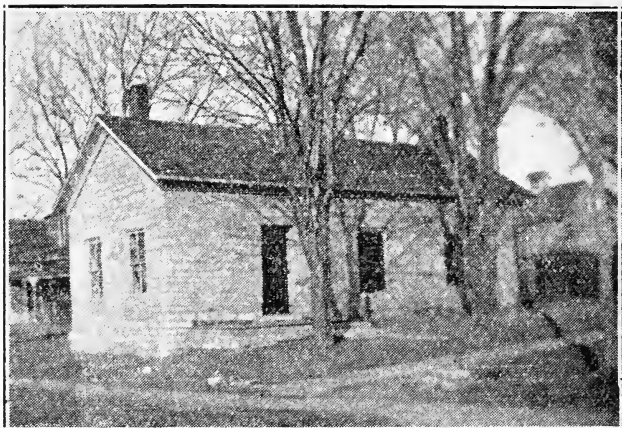
The late R. D. Thomas, father of Mrs. J. J. Rhodes, did considerable carpenter work on the frame buildings erected in Council Grove in the early 60's. His wife, before her marriage to Mr. Thomas, lived here with her sister, Mrs. Evan Jones. Mr. Jones was a stone contractor and helped build a number of our stone buildings in town and the stone cabins along the Neosho river.

T. B. Barber, one of our respected citizens, passed through Council Grove three times during the days it was at the height of its glory as a trading post on the Santa Fe Trail. He came to Council Grove in 1857 with Col. Van Horn, editor of the Kansas City Journal of Commerce (the present Kansas City Journal). Their visit to the city was for the purpose of distributing 200 copies of Col. Van Horn's newspaper. In June of the same year Mr. Barber and eight other young men formed a company in Independence Mo., and made the trip across the plains with mining supplies for Colorado and New Mexico mines.

In 1861 the same company passed through here with five wagons of supplies and after reaching New Mexico bought other outfits. On their return trip they had twenty-seven wagons filled with gold, furs and buffalo meat. They sold one thousand pounds of this meat to Seth Hays for twenty-five cents per pound. On this trip they brought two teams of buffalo, the first brought to Council Grove. Later in the year 1861, Mr. Barber was the first recruiting officer stationed here. His office was a ten by twelve shack built of native lumber and was located on the site of F. A. Robbins' drug store. He placed

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the Stars and Stripes over his office door, the first flag raised in Council Grove. Mr. and Mrs. Barber started on their wedding journey on the first train that ran from Junction City to Parsons, through Council Grove, October 27, 1869.



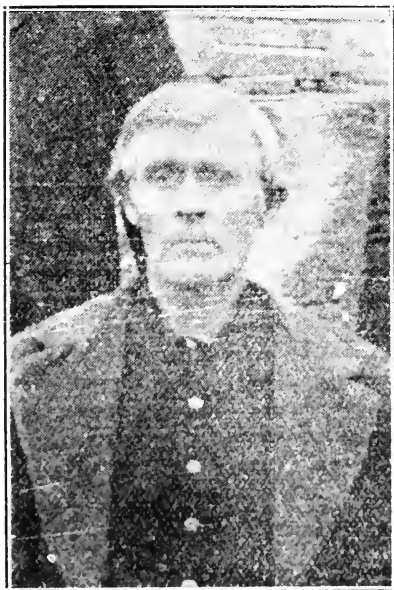
LAST CHANCE STORE. BUILT 1857



M. CONN



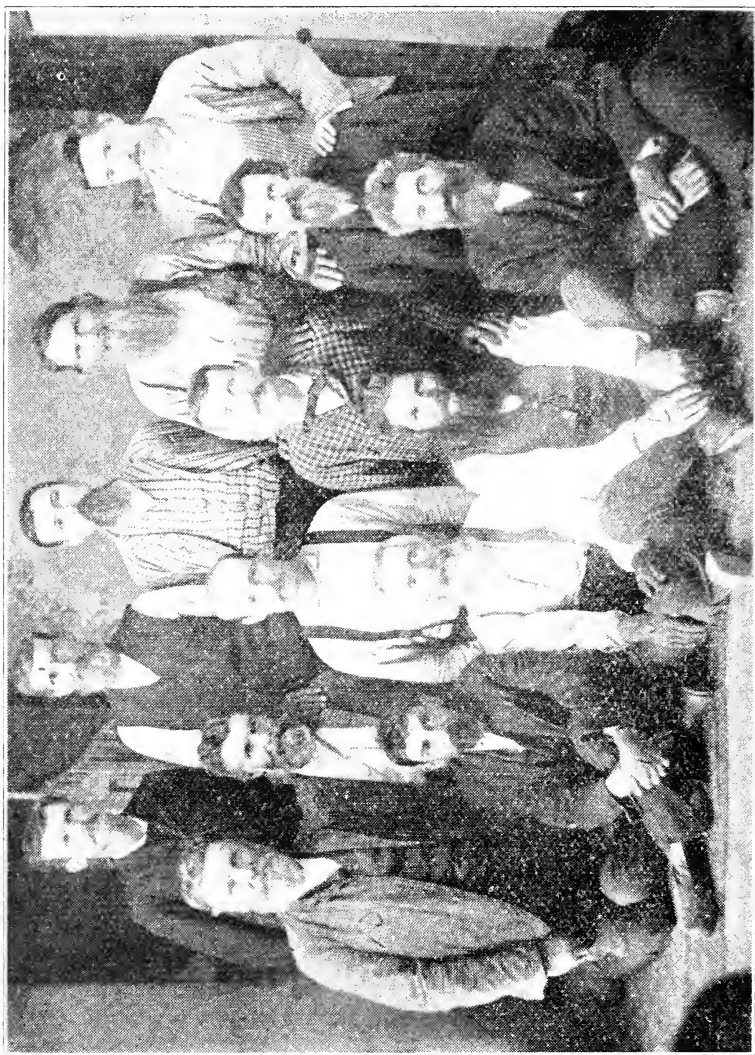
S. N. WOOD



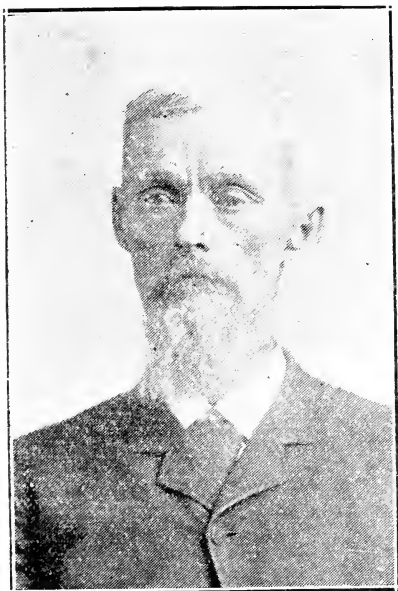
HIRAM ALLEN



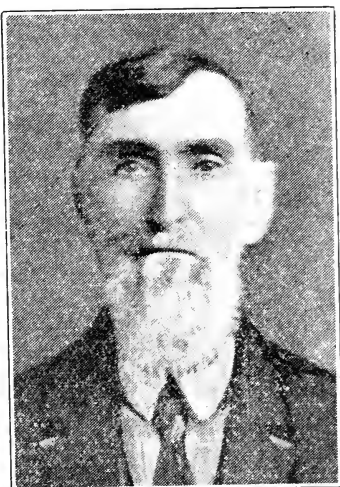
MRS. HIRAM ALLEN



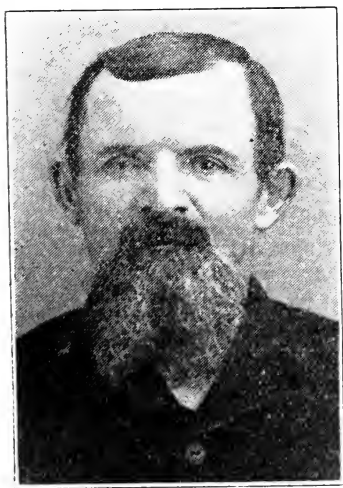
OLD SETTLERS WHO LIVED HERE IN THE 50'S



BENJAMIN MUNKERS



WARREN JOHNSON



WM. POLLARD

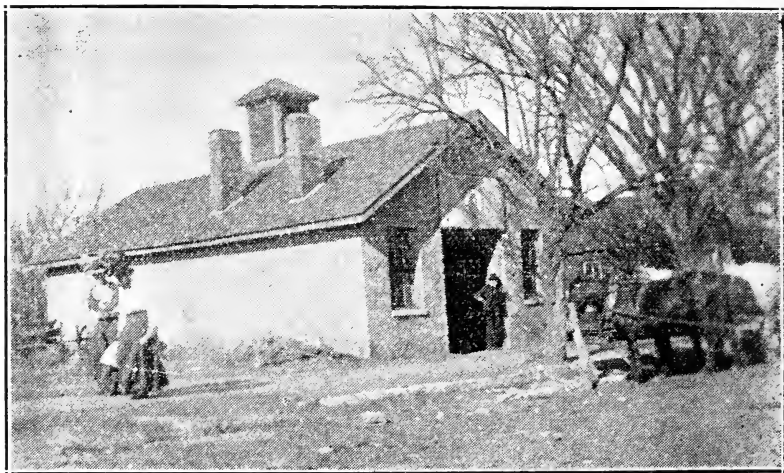


MRS. WM. POLLARD

THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL



PIONEER STORE—1858



STRIEBY BLACKSMITH SHOP, BUILT 1860

## CHAPTER IV

The first sale of lots in Council Grove was in 1860. It was the only town in Morris county at that time. In 1861 the Gilke House (now the Commercial House) was run by A. J. Baker and Eli Sewell, his brother-in-law. Mr. Baker started a little store on Rock creek on the old Kelley farm in 1862. The Anderson boys, who belonged to a guerilla band, stole Baker's horses. He traced them and captured the horses, but had to kill the Anderson boys' father in self-defense. A few days later they shot Baker and his brother-in-law and burned the store over them. Council Grove was kept in continual fear of these border ruffians and the hostile Indians. Many of these bands would pass through Council Grove going west to seek a hiding place. Dick Yeager's band camped on Big John, and after insulting some of our citizens, sent threatening messages to others. Malcolm Conn, who had known Yeager as a freighter before the war, went out and persuaded him not to burn the town as he had planned to do. This was a lucky incident for Council Grove, as they would no doubt have carried out their threats if Mr. Conn had not used his influence to dissuade them.

The Yeager band went to Diamond Springs and killed the store-keeper there. They also shot his wife, but she recovered. In August, 1863, the Andersons and Yeagers were in the Quantrell raid on Lawrence. The Morris County Rangers, with Sam Wood captain, were organized to protect the town from invasion. In 1863 the settlers on the Kaw lands and their problems concerning the settlement of their claims made interesting history for Council Grove that year. It took years to settle some of their claims. A new firm, Lederick & Robbins, was formed in 1863. There were two saloons. Columbia & Johnson were wagon makers. There was a meat market and the Union mills were owned and operated by J. P. Mathers and the Aiken brothers. The crops were good in 1863-64 and prices were high and buyers plentiful. The mill which stood on the west side of the Neosho did a splendid business the years the crops were good. J. P. Mathers built their home, which is now occupied by Henry Blim and family. There was a large family of jolly boys and girls in the Mathers home and they

lived here many years. The Aikens followed several lines of business and were here several years. Two Aiken boys married two of Major Farnsworth's daughters, who lived with their father down on the Reservation. After Major Farnsworth left the Reservation, Major Stover took charge of the Indians. He was followed by Major Stubbs, who remained until the Indians were removed in 1873.

The first Teachers' Institute was organized in 1864. Joab Spencer was superintendent. There were twenty-four in attendance.

The stone brewery was built by Frederick Hebrank, one of the settlers of the 60's. His daughter, Mrs. Mary Metzger, owns the building and it is occupied by her as a residence. In front of this building is an old oak tree which belonged to the oak grove in which the treaty was signed in 1825. In early days it was called the Postoffice Oak, as there was a cache made of stone placed by this tree in which passing caravans left letters or messages. During the Cheyenne raid of 1868 all of the women and children on the east side of the river were barricaded in the brewery. When the Cheyennes surrounded the building, they asked for water and something to eat. Mrs. Metzger met the braves and for an hour drew water from the well in the basement to give to the Indians. During this time the other women were upstairs with the frightened children. No one was molested.

Jacob and Fred Barth came to Council Grove in 1862. They lived in a log cabin on the Gildemeister lots east of the river. They both figured prominently in the events of early days. Some of the choicest land in the Neosho valley is owned by Jacob Barth. He was associated in business with W. H. White for a number of years. Jacob Barth dug the first grave in Greenwood cemetery. He is 91 years old and the oldest man living who resided here in the 60's. His wife and daughter, Mrs. Will Young, are living in Council Grove. Another daughter, Mrs. Minnie Roswurm, lives in Oregon.

Frederick Barth and his wife died several years ago. His son, Robert, is a resident of Council Grove and is one of the firm Barth & Ruch.

In 1865 there was great rejoicing when the soldiers returned from the Civil War. The North and the South were both

about equally represented in Council Grove, but Time, the great healer, soon adjusted their differences and they worked together during the years of reconstruction for the betterment of the nation's welfare. This same year, when the building of the Graded school east of Conn street bridge was being agitated, the following article was published in the Council Grove Press of August 11, 1865.

"See notice of graded school meeting next Friday. Let all attend. If you don't want schools, or anything that induces immigrants to come into the country, vote down the school house. If you are determined that you will injure Council Grove all you can, vote down the school house. If you are anxious to make your presence felt for evil, vote down the school house. If you don't want education, or civilization, unless you can have them for nothing, vote down the school house. If you want to be a savage, try to get the Kaws back to Council Grove and vote down the school house. Get the Kaws to vote—every one of them will vote against it—would rather have the money to buy worthless trinkets or 'big whiskey.'"

These bonds carried by a good majority.

Chasing horse thieves was one of the big activities following the close of the war. It was dangerous business, too, for there were numerous hiding places where the thieves could stay for days and not be found. In 1866 the stage line was moved to Junction City. The Santa Fe wagon trains continued to run a while longer, but the trade practically ended in 1866. This was a blow to the business firms who had supplied these trains and several firms left Council Grove that year. In 1867 the grasshoppers came, but did very little damage. There were excessive rains and floods that year.

During one of the floods, when the water was at its height, a woman's screams floated across the river from a little house north of Main street on the east bank of the Neosho. There was no bridge at that time, so the people were lined up on each side of the river. The woman was the wife of Gus Robbins, who was away at the time. The water was running over the bed and Mrs. Robbins and baby were marooned in the house. James Robbins, the father-in-law, offered \$50 to anyone who would rescue them. John Wise went in a boat and brought them o safety.

General Custer camped in Council Grove in 1867. His camp was located near the Custer Elm north of the Sample.

town bridge. He bought a farm from the Kaw Indians, which included most of Sampletown, extending along Elm creek to the Whitlow place. Dick Smith's home is near the little house that was located on this farm.

Council Grove was honored with many distinguished guests in 1867. This was the year when woman's suffrage agitation began in earnest, so most of the lectures were on that subject. John Maloy, in his Morris County History, says: "We had lectures on woman's suffrage until it would have taken a search warrant to find a case of domestic tyranny in our county." George Francis Train, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone Blackwell, Miss Brinkerhoff, Rev. Olympia Brown, ex-Governor Robinson, and Sam Wood were all here from time to time and delivered lectures in advocacy of women's right to vote. These lectures were all delivered in City Hall, familiarly known as Little Brown Jug.

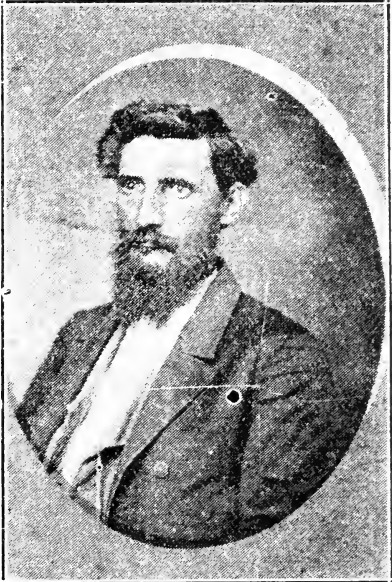
February 2, 1867, Jack McDowell, an outlaw who had stolen a span of horses from William Pollard, was hung from the timbers of the old wooden bridge. This act was caused by the fact that a man named Cunningham, under-sheriff of Shawnee county, was trying to rescue him. McDowell was one of Quantrell's gang, and they threatened to clean out Council Grove to revenge the hanging of McDowell, but the excitement soon subsided and McDowell was given a decent burial in our cemetery.

One interesting event of this year was the escape of Sarah Jane Luster from the Indians. With her people she had been captured by the Indians and taken to Southwestern Kansas. The father and mother were killed. She had made several attempts to escape and was finally successful and headed toward the east. She rode into Council Grove and was cared for by people here. She had stolen a fleet pony from the Indians and rode all the way bareback. She had never been to Council Grove and luck seemed on her side that she had taken the trail that led here, instead of one that would have taken her to another Indian camp. She was married to T. G. Vanoy and lived here many years.

Variety being the spice of life, it may be well to vary this tale with some of the incidents that went to make life interesting in the 60's.



H. D. PRESTON



JONATHAN H. MENDEN



R. M. ARMSTRONG



REV. JOAB SPENCER



MRS. W. F. SHAMLEFFER



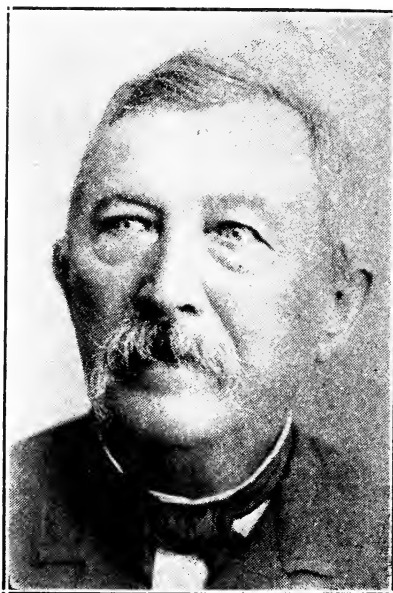
W. F. SHAMLEFFER



MRS. B. C. PAINTER



MRS. C. L. HUGHES  
C. H. STREIBY  
MRS. R. M. ARMSTRONG  
S. M. STREIBY  
MRS. L. DILON



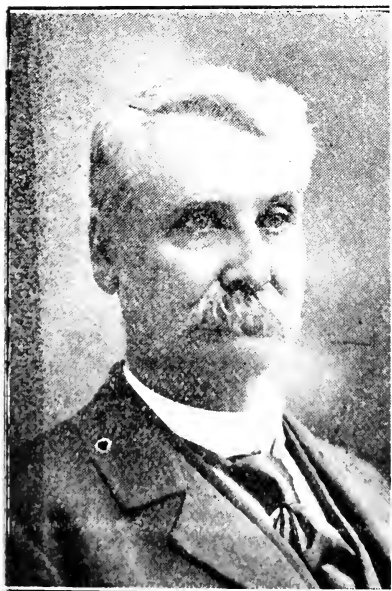
FREDERICK X. HEBRANK



ISAAC SHARP



J. L. SHARP



B. R. SCOTT



MRS. B. R. SCOTT

## CHAPTER V

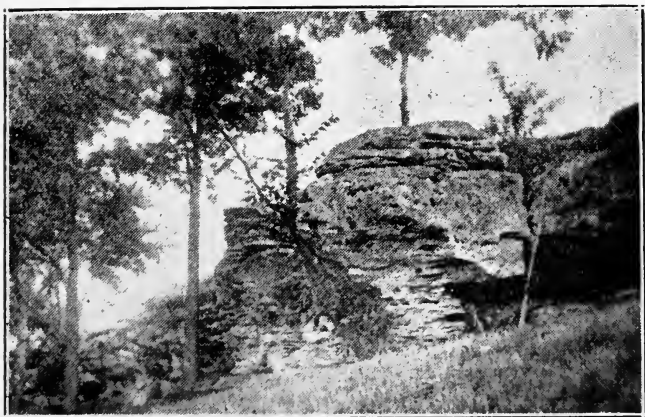
Seth Hays had sold his business and started a saloon, which was highly respectable in those days. Being progressive and up-to-date, he secured a tramp with a bagpipe to entertain his guests. This proved a drawing card and business was prosperous. Mr. Hays was very hospitable and kind-hearted, so when the M. E. church members, who had been holding services in the Brown Jug, decided to disband and, owing their minister, they were in a quandary to find a place to hold a festival that they might raise the necessary funds, Mr. Hays very graciously offered his saloon. At first they were horrified at the idea, but Mr. Hays proposed to remove all evidence of his business, and promised them a crowd. As there was no other place in town, they accepted his offer. When his usual guests arrived they were greeted by ladies in gala attire, and beheld the walls and bar lined with wagon covers. The crowd was highly entertained and the ladies were well repaid for their humbled pride by receiving a large sum of money and the good will of a class of people who did not often consider the church in their line of business.

F. P. Nichols taught the first graded school in 1867-68. This school was held in the brick building east of the Conn street bridge.

On June 3, 1868, our citizens were apprised of an attack by the Cheyennes. The people were used to rumors of Indian attacks and guerilla raids. Sometimes these false alarms brought courage to the brave ones who prepared to protect and defend the town, while others sought a good hiding place. The Cheyennes came from the southwest 300 strong. Half of them passed through town and the others passed down Four Mile creek. They were painted for war and armed with the intention of exterminating the Kaws. The Kaws, under the leadership of Major Stover, were prepared. The skirmish took place near the Big John Indian Agency. There was one Kaw wounded and one Cheyenne killed. After the battle the Cheyennes marched through town to the Pollard farm and robbed them of all their food. They looted several of the ranches west of town and emptied all the feather beds they could find. The prairies had the appearance of a snowstorm

in June. Captain Mullins and a company of soldiers were located here to protect the town from further invasion. No serious encounters with the Indians occurred after 1868. The Indians would go from house to house begging food, but did not harm anyone.

Senator Charles Curtis attended the Kaw Indian school three miles below Council Grove, on the Indian reservation, when he was eight years old. Hearing that the Cheyennes were going to raid the Kaws he ran away and walked the whole distance to Topeka. In later years he was often a guest of T. S. Huffaker and took great pleasure in recalling his experience in the Kaw school.



HERMIT'S CAVE

## CHAPTER VI

April 30, 1869, Council Grove became a city of the third class. R. B. Lockwood was the first mayor. Previous to this the town had been governed by a board of trustees. June 7 the same year, General Scofield visited Council Grove and attended a May Queen Festival given by the young ladies of the town for the benefit of the M. E. church, South. During the 60's one of the favorite pastimes of the people was the Lyceum held in the Brown Jug. Political debates were common occurrences, and the walls of this school house fairly rang with the voluble utterances of R. M. Wright, Dr. Bradford, Dr. Woodworth and Dr. Beach.

The M. K. & T. railway was completed and the first train ran through Council Grove October 27, 1869. There was a big celebration in honor of the event.

There were two sawmills here during the 60's. One was back of the McNay house. James Rightley was part owner in this one. The other was near the Blim home, on the bank of the river. The block house built by the government in 1861 was located within a few feet of where the Old Bell monument now stands. It was built for a lookout for Indians or guerilla raids during the Civil War. It was used by soldiers and torn down about 1864. The first church building in Council Grove, the M. E. church, South, was dedicated in July, 1869. The winter of 1869-70 was mild and business was fair. The people who came here during the years from 1860 to 1870 were worthy citizens. Many of them built homes that are still standing today. Luke Lederick was one of the prominent merchants in the 60's. He was a brother-in-law of John Polk, who lived here until his death a few years ago. Joab Spencer lived in Council Grove from 1859 until some time in the 70's. He was a merchant, preacher, teacher, farmer and trader with the Indians. He built the original Cottage House and through his efforts the M. E. church, South, was erected while he was presiding elder. A. B. Spencer, his brother, located here in the 60's.

Isaac Sharp and his father came to Council Grove in 1863. They first located on Sharp's creek, in McPherson county, in 1860, but were raided by the Indians and they moved to Coun-

cil Grove. Mrs. Sharp, the mother of Isaac and J. L. Sharp, died in McPherson county. Council Grove was the nearest settlement, and as no white people lived near them, she was buried by the Indians. The father died in Council Grove a few years later. Isaac Sharp was a lawyer and newspaper man. He served in the legislature and was a regent of the Kansas State Normal. He spent the last few years of his life in Washington, D. C. His son, Elwood Sharp, is still living in our city. J. L. Sharp, a brother of Isaac Sharp, came across the plains to Council Grove in 1866. He went back to Maryland a few months later, but in 1869 brought his family and located here. In 1893 they moved to California. His daughter, Mrs. George Irwin, resides in Council Grove.

Captain Stenger, father of James, William and Kit Stenger, came to Council Grove early in 1863. He was born in Germany and served in the army under Prince Leopold. He was a volunteer from New Mexico in the Civil War. Mr. Stenger was a fine scholar and spoke Latin, Greek, Spanish, French and German. The family lived in a building on Main street, where they had a grocery store. The two sons, James and Christian, are living in Council Grove, and William resides in Texas.

W. F. Shamleffer came in the spring of 1863 and during his fifty-eight years' residence here has been in various kinds of business. In front of his residence is the Shamleffer Grove, where all the early day picnics were held. His first venture into politics was in 1869, when he and R. M. Armstrong both ran for township treasurer. The vote tied and Mr. Armstrong drew the longest straw and with it the much coveted office that had no salary attached to it. Mr. Shamleffer has served many years on the school board and in the city council. He was postmaster for one term, and has a record in the number of years he has been mayor. In the forty-eight years our city has had a mayor, he has served in that capacity eighteen years and was a member of the council eight years. Mr. Shamleffer married Miss Margaret Munkres in 1868.

James Watkins, or Uncle Jimmie, as he was so well known, moved here in 1863. He owned the Watkins block and kept the Commercial House. He was a worthy citizen. His daughters, Mrs. W. D. Feigley and Mrs. J. J. Springer, are the only two of his large family who are living here.

Jonathan Hammond first located on Clark's creek in 1859 and lived there until the fall of 1864, when he moved to Council Grove. Mrs. W. H. White, Mrs. J. B. Fleming and Mrs. J. T. Jacobs, three of his daughters, live in Council Grove. Mrs. Sage, another daughter, lives in California, and his son, James, in Herington. Mrs. Jacobs has the distinction of being the oldest woman born in Morris county and still residing in the county. Mr. Hammond was prominent in county affairs, and was on the first Board of County Commissioners. He died several years ago.

No family of people have meant more to Council Grove than the Strieby family. Chris Strieby, the older brother, and the first to arrive, came overland from Missouri in 1856 with Uncle Billie White. He settled that year on Strieby creek, in Marion county, but located in Council Grove in 1857. He and his partner, Mr. Whitsett, built the stone blacksmith shop in 1860. He also in 1864 built the brick residence now owned and occupied by Edwin Anderson. This was the home of the Harry Richter family for thirty-eight years. Mr. Strieby married Miss Carrie Wright in 1864. They lived in Council Grove the remainder of their lives. Five of their seven children are still living. Mrs. Robert Barth is the only one living in Council Grove. Miss Clara Strieby came in 1863 and kept house for her brother, C. H. Strieby. Mrs. Bettie Painter, whose mother died in 1862, lived with them. Miss Strieby was a business woman, and was for a long time a partner in the firm of M. C. Armstrong & Company. She married Col. A. J. Hughes in 1880. Mollie Strieby arrived in 1864 and lived with her brother and sister until her marriage to R. M. Armstrong December 7, 1871. Sam Strieby, in company with R. M. Armstrong, arrived by stage May 27, 1865. Mr. Strieby was a wagon maker. He married Agnes Stevenson in 1875. She was the daughter of Uncle Tommie Stevenson and is still living in Council Grove. Their sons, Charlie, George and Hughes, and daughters, Clara and Corrine, are still living here. Mrs. Dillon, another sister, and her family of five children arrived in 1867. Her children were all small when they came to Kansas. Mrs. Dillon lived here until a short time before her death, when she moved to Kansas City, Kansas, with her daughter, Mrs. J. M. Miller. Mrs. Steen lives in Colorado and Charles Dillon is in

business in Council Grove. Mrs. Dillon passed away in April, 1919. These people have always been known in Council Grove as Aunt Cal, Aunt Mollie, Aunt Sadie, Uncle Chris and Uncle Sam. Their hospitality and kindness to orphaned children have won for them a permanent place in the hearts of their friends in this community. All of the five brothers and sisters have passed away, but the younger generation of the Strieby family have the satisfaction of knowing that the influence of their lives still lingers in our midst.

R. M. Armstrong's history is closely allied with that of the Strieby family. He came here in 1865 to visit his sister, Mrs. Isaac Sharp. During his fifty-six years' residence here he has been prominent in business, politics, church and social affairs. He figured prominently in society in the early days of his residence here. He clerked for the Aiken Bros. for the first year and a half, then went into business for himself. The Armstrong & Spencer hardware firm was the first hardware store in town, and was located where the Cottage House sample rooms are. He was in business with W. F. Shamleffer for several years, and later was one of the M. C. Armstrong firm. Mr. Armstrong was city treasurer twenty-five years, clerk of the district court twelve years, postmaster sixteen years, and is now city clerk.

Mrs. Lucy Ann Schmidt passed through Council Grove with her husband in 1855. Mr. Schmidt belonged to the United States army and they were on their way to Fort Riley. Mrs. Schmidt was one of eight women with the regiment. They came horseback. They camped here a while on account of some of the troops having smallpox. They lived in Fort Riley, Ogden and at Junction City several years. Mr. Schmidt was the first mayor and first postmaster of Junction City. They moved to Council Grove in 1864, and Mrs. Schmidt kept a boarding house in a building on Main street. Mrs. Schmidt is the oldest woman living here now who was a resident of Council Grove in the 60's. She is eighty-five years old. Several of her family live in Council Grove. Mr. Schmidt died in 1880.

H. D. Preston was a prominent figure in the 60's and many old residents remember him. He came in 1866, and taught school for a time afterward. He was a surveyor and did some

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

valuable work in that line for Council Grove. He also surveyed and platted Greenwood cemetery. He sent East and bought many of the trees that line our streets today. He built and lived in the Kenwell house on Columbia street.

General McMillan and family were prominent citizens in the 60's. There were several brothers and sisters. Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Collins, two sisters, are still residing here. There are also a number of their nieces and nephews in Council Grove.

Col. A. J. Hughes came in 1869 and died in 1881. He was a splendid citizen and prominent lawyer. J. T. Stevenson came in 1865, the McNays in 1864, Harry McCardell in 1866, the Rightleys in 1867. Mr. McCardell's wife and son are still living here. Mr. and Mrs. Rightley will always be remembered by the Rightley house which they built in 1879. Mrs. McNay is still living and is with her grandson, Roy Reese. Both of these ladies were noted for their hospitality. H. W. Gilde-meister came in 1866. He lived on a farm west of town for a few years but moved to town and was prominent in business. He built the Etta opera house and laundry building. He died in 1900. M. Metzger settled in Council Grove about this time. His wife and son, Albert, and daughter, Mrs. Roy McCardell, live here now. Mrs. John Sager's people came in 1866. She is one of the girls of the 60's who is still living in Council Grove. Wm. Tolbert and family arrived in 1869. Their home is the little stone building that was once the Last Chance store. Mr. Tolbert died in 1913. Mrs. Tolbert, his widow, and her daughter, Mrs. A. H. Prater, still reside in Council Grove. F. M. Chase came to Council Grove after the Civil War closed. With his father and mother he lived on the Chase farm west of Council Grove. He died in June, 1920. Mrs. Chase and daughter, Carrie, still reside in Council Grove. The father and mother of Arthur Nelson came here in the 60's. Mr. Nelson was murdered on his farm some time in the 70's. Mrs. Nelson lived in Council Grove until her death in 1900. B. R. Scott and family located here in the fall of 1869. Mr. Scott has been in various kinds of business. His daughter, Mrs. W. H. Comer, and son, Ernest D., are living here. John Q. Barber, father of Lindrum Barber, and Mrs. C. N. Head came at the same time B. R. Scott came. Lewis Mead came in 1869, and was followed

by the Marks brothers. They have all been identified with the business interests of Council Grove during all these years. Mr. Mead owns the Cottage House. Fletcher Cress, the father of Banna Cress, lived here a short time after 1866. He was sheriff of Morris county at one time. Banna Cress was born in Council Grove in 1866.

There are a number of other families we could mention who lived here in the 60's, but time and space will not permit. The ten years from 1860 to 1870 were halcyon days for the little town. Many new faces had appeared and there were jolly times for all who were living here. There were no circles or sets. Everybody knew everybody. The Civil War had left its mark, but the people recovered quickly and life flowed joyously on. There were picnics, parties, balls, barbecues, ice cream festivals, May Queen parties, New Year calling and every known social activity. There were the Hammond girls, the Dillon girls, the Mathers girls, the Huffaker girls, the Wright girls, the Munkres girls, the McNay and Schmidt girls, Bettie Robbins, Fannie White, Coonie Steele, Billie Shamleffer, R. M. Armstrong, Albert Simcock, the Stenger boys, and George Huffaker. All of the above are living to corroborate this story.

Those were the days of the tallow candle, feather bed, shuck mattress, bright rag carpets, nine patch and wild goose pattern of quilts. There were a few ingrain carpets, some of them with bright red roses in the center of a square or scroll shaped figure. On the wall could be seen a hair wreath framed, or possibly it was a bunch or wreath of wax flowers. Sometimes on the center table there reposed the coffin plate of a departed relative. In some homes there were melodeons. Every house-wife made her own yeast and soft soap. She knit the family stockings. The old rail fence in town was being replaced with the picket fence. Green shutters and doorbells were coming in. During the last years of the 60's candles were going out and kerosene lamps were taking their place. A few years later lamp shades with brilliant flowers were appearing. The carpetbag was giving way to the shiny valise. There were a few organs adorning the front rooms or parlors. With the coming of lamps, hair cloth sofas, marble top tables, and corner what-nots could be found in many of the homes. There were mottoes of cardboard worked in bright colored yarns with

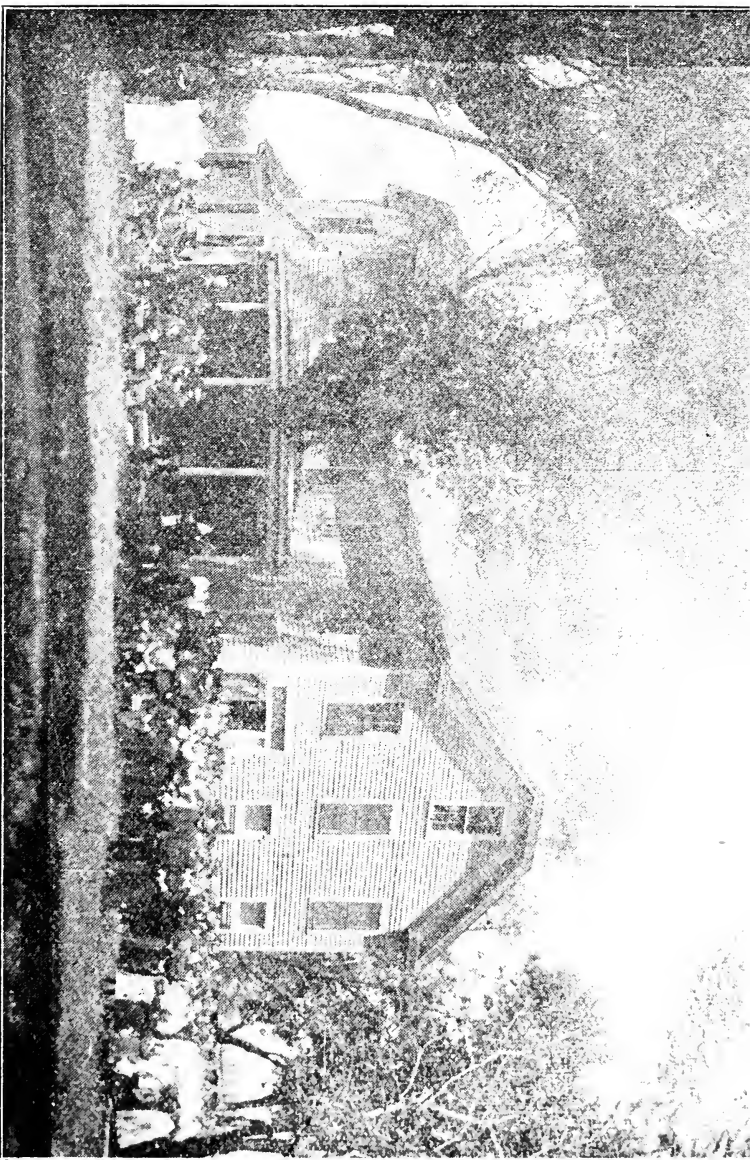
"God Bless Our Home" and "Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother" in nearly every home. Hoop skirts and bustles formed part of woman's wearing apparel, and an advertisement in an old newspaper published in 1868 accuses our fellow townsman, R. M. Armstrong, of having for sale "collapsible hoops."

During these years Hockaday street was the town's race track. W. H. White, Sr., was the driver for Mr. Conn's speed horses.

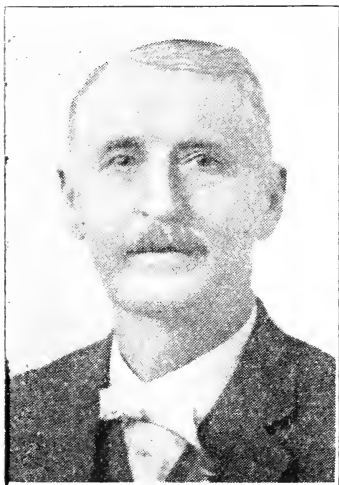
There was a town well. We had watering troughs and there were hitching racks along Main street.

There were no street lamps and everyone carried lanterns. There were no crossings on the streets—just stepping stones. Everyone went with someone else so as to share their light. A great many rode horseback in those days. Single buggies were the common mode of travel for the lads and lassies of romantic age, but on the Fourth of July and at other celebrations, the three-seated spring wagon was always in demand. These gala days were never quite complete unless the wagon struck one of those stepping stones at street crossings and spilled out the occupants of the back seat.

We cannot leave the 60's without mention of the "Hermit's Cave," which aside from being the home of the hermit priest, answered the call of youth to youth, and played the part of a trysting place for young lovers. It was also called "Cupid's Postoffice." Many were the love messages posted in the crevices of the cave. Here William Pollard courted his future wife. Mrs. Shamleffer and her girl friends met their soldier boys here at the twilight time. Mrs. White divided the contents of her dinner pail with the hermit, and Bettie Painter, too young to be interested in Cupid's Postoffice entertained the hermit with her chatter. It is to be regretted that the hermit left before the arrival of R. M. Armstrong and W. F. Shamleffer, or there would have been more romance connected with his sojourn here.



53rd Anniversary of the Marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hufaker  
T. S. HUFFAKER HOME



W. H. WHITE



MRS. W. H. WHITE



MRS. S. M. STRIEBY



MRS. J. T. JACOBS

## CHAPTER VII

With the advent of 1870 came prosperity. It was called Emigrant Year. There were several excursions from the East bringing people to Council Grove. Some of them came from Ohio. Among them were the Warwick brothers and their brother-in-law, George Anderson. Harry and Fred Richter, Major Case and his son, Sprague. Perry Snider came with one excursion and is still living here. He is the only survivor of that company living in Council Grove. Others came from Kentucky. J. P. Brown immigrated from Texas and lived here until 1882 and then returned to Texas. The Gentes family, Todd, Kenny and Virgil Roberts came about this time. J. C. Carpenter, John Maloy, M. B. Nicholson, Porter Roberts, W. J. McGeorge, Tom and George Cleek, John Sager, Emanuel and Stanton Jenkins located here early in the 70's. J. S. Provine, O. S. Munsell, O. Z. Buris, F. T. Behring, J. O. Foresman, Peter Moriarty, A. J. Pullins, J. W. Dumm, R. M. Rigdon, J. M. Miller, Dr. E. J. Dill, the Marks brothers, S. M. Corey, John Fox, A. B. Spencer, Hayden Fisher, Chris Fisher, P. S. Maletz, A. A. Estlin, A. G. Campbell, Hugh Stewart, D. C. Webb, R. S. Davidson, B. R. Pulliam, James Seamans, Louis Peterson, C. W. Crimm, H. Morehouse, J. N. Baker, D. A. Reid and many others located here some time during the 70's.

Many of these people stayed and weathered the drought, winds, and grasshoppers, but others returned to the East. Some of the new settlers were very progressive and had many improvements put in around town. In 1871 there were gasoline lamps at our street corners and a public bath house. The bath house was located back of the McNay home. The calaboose which served as a jail was built in 1871, and was located down on Elm creek. It was afterward moved back of the old Strieby blacksmith shop.

Part of the land where Greenwood Cemetery is located was owned by Sam Wood and donated to the town in 1862 for the purpose of starting a burial ground. Later a tract was bought from H. W. McNay. The Odd Fellows bought the cemetery in 1870 and Seth Hays gave them four acres to add to the original plat. The stone wall was built around the cemetery in 1871. This was done that year partly to keep laborers in

Council Grove to vote against the change of the county seat to Parkerville.

A contest in which a glass toilet set was awarded to the most popular woman in Council Grove netted quite a sum for the building of the cemetery wall. Mrs. Porter, a school teacher, and Miss Clara Ingram were the contestants. Miss Ingram won.

The coal excitement was an important event of 1872. The mine was located on the W. K. Pollard farm. The output equaled the few buckets of Pennsylvania hard coal that the mine had previously been salted with. This investment hit our merchants a hard blow. Some of them never recovered from it.

A tragedy that caused the keenest agony among our people was the drowning of J. B. Somers and wife, Susie Huffaker and Phil Roberts. This occurred the night of May 14, 1872, at Mission Ford. The bodies were recovered by citizens with the aid of Indians. Mr. Somers was county attorney. He and his wife had been married only two months. Mr. Roberts was a brother of Porter Roberts, and Miss Huffaker was the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Huffaker. She met her death within one hundred yards of where she was born.

The contest between Parkerville and Council Grove regarding the county seat was decided at the election in 1871. Council Grove was victorious and began preparations for building the



new court house. It was built in 1873 and completed in time for a celebration Christmas night. It cost \$15,000. The court room was for many years used for all festive occasions. The front part was built in 1902.

## CHAPTER VIII

The Kaw Indians were removed in May, 1873, to the Indian Territory. They regretted the change and the last few days they were here they were busy shaking hands with their old friends, and giving and receiving gifts. There were about 1,700 on the reservation when they were removed to the Territory, and now there are only about 200 of the Kansas, or Kaw tribe left in and around Kaw City, southeast of Newkirk, Oklahoma. There are only about 50 of this number that are full-bloods.

With the removal of the Kaw Indians, their famous Kaw Trail, which had served them as a path to their various haunts, was for many years a reminder to the settlers of the Kaw Indians, whose twenty-six years' sojourn in the Neosho Valley helped make history for Council Grove and Morris county. This trail, which was lined on each side with sunflowers, started at the mouth of Big John creek, four miles southeast of Council Grove, and kept from three to six miles south of the Santa Fe Trail. It passed west and southwest to Diamond creek, on through Marion and McPherson counties to Rice county, where their hunting grounds were located. Buffalo and other wild game abounded in Western Kansas at that time. The trail was worn with the fleet-footed ponies and the tepee poles covered with buffalo skins, on which the squaws and papooses rode. Along this trail were many graves of departed Indians, marked only by the skeleton of the pony which was sacrificed at the time of the owner's death. Old settlers recall all the Indian war dances, sun dances and celebrations in honor of the returning braves who went out to battle with the other tribes or to hunt for game.

John Madden, of Emporia, and George, P. Morehouse, of Topeka, each have written splendid articles about this Kaw Trail.

At the session of the Kansas Historical Society in 1903, Mr. Morehouse gave his address, "Along the Kaw Trail," and described the Indian villages in Morris county. The village on Cahola creek was governed by Alle-go-wa-ho. The village near the present site of Dunlap was presided over by Kah-he-ga-wa-ti-an-gah, or the "Fool Chief," as he was called. Wah-ti-an-gah was chief of the village near the Agency down on

Big John. In the closing lines of his address, from which we quote the following, Mr. Morehouse dwelt on the pathetic side of their departure from their beloved Kaw Reservation:

"Since 1873 the Kaws, few in number and slow to adjust themselves to the crowding civilization of the times, have lived on a small reservation in the Indian Territory. Few of their noted warriors are alive, but occasionally small bands of the tribe or solitary individuals visit the Neosho Valley and recall the scenes of other days. They stoically survey the changes around their former homes. The sites of their villages are now covered by highly cultivated farms, and where their permanent lodges and decorated tepees once stood, the comfortable homes of the present owners embellish the landscape. The graves of their ancestors, the course of the trail in the valley, are obliterated by the mold and cultivation of years. However, for many miles west of their old reservation it is plainly visible, and in the large pastures and on some of the near-by prairie slopes, may yet be found the graveyards of the tribe. These they can visit, and travel for a few miles along their old-time highway. But where is Kah-he-ga-wa-ti-an-gah, their great "fool chief," brave and warrior? Where is Al-le-ga-wa-ho, for years their head chief and the most eloquent and entertaining Indian orator of his time? Where are Wah-ti-an-gah, the good chief, and old Na-he-da-ba and Shon-ga-ne-gah, and other braves and wise men of the tribe. They have passed over the trail for the last time, and live in peace on the rich ranges of the happy hunting grounds.

"No more they sit by council fires,  
And praise the prowess of their sires.  
No dusky maiden now is seen.  
The valley blooms the hills between,  
Where once the Indian village shone,  
A city proud with spires has grown;  
Where once they chased the panting deer,  
Neosho's fields the farmers cheer."

Our old Mission building, the little stone cabins up and down the Neosho, and the Padilla monument, or Indian guide, which stands on the hill south of town, are about all the reminders of the Kansas, or Kaw, Indians we have left.

The Padilla monument, once much larger than now, is a rough pile of stone, and tradition tells us it marks the resting place of the Spanish priest, Juan de Padilla, America's first Christian martyr. Father Padilla was a Franciscan friar, and in 1541 accompanied Coronado on his famous expedition into the heart of Quivira, our present day Kansas. They spent some time with the Quivirans along the Smoky Hill river, and Father

Padilla had some success with his mission to these nomads, who are understood to have been the early Pawnees. One of their main villages was near the present Junction City, about thirty-five miles northwest of Council Grove.

History tells us that Coronado, disgusted with having found no gold, returned to Mexico, and that Father Padilla went back with him as far as the present Albuquerque, New Mexico. The next spring, 1542, this good priest, who was not looking for gold, returned to the Quivirans and continued his mission with them. After a while, he decided to visit some other tribes who were the enemies of the Quivirans. This caused trouble and he met his death before accomplishing anything with those he wished to serve. Some accounts say that certain braves of the Quivirans followed him and killed him to prevent his "good medicine" being taken to their enemies. Other versions are that he came to his death at the hands of hostile Indians he met one or two days' journey from Quivira, and that his body was covered with a pile of "innumerable stones." The enemies of the Quivirans (Pawnees) were the Escansaques, the old name of the Kansas, or Kaw, Indians, and it was to them that he was going when martyred. Two or three of his attendants escaped, and after ten years' wandering reached Old Mexico, where they told their tale which has come down to us in ancient Spanish writings.

Other places in Kansas claim to hold the remains of this devoted man, but certain traditions and historic accounts are as strong, or stronger, in favor of Mount Padilla near Council Grove.

There is also an old tradition of Catholic friends in New Mexico that some of his devotees, years afterward, came here, found his grave, hollowed out a black walnut sledge, and dragged it back to Isleta, New Mexico, and thus carried his remains to be placed under the altar of the little church at that place. If this be true, it would account for his remains and belongings not being found in the region where he met his death.

It is a wonderful and mysterious story with the exact facts hidden from us, but this crude monument bears the halo of being the mute witness to his sacrifice in attempting to do good.

And what a strange coincidence it is, that just 300 years after this martyrdom, this monument marked the center of a

reservation for the very Indians for whom Father Padilla is thought to have given his last supreme sacrifice.

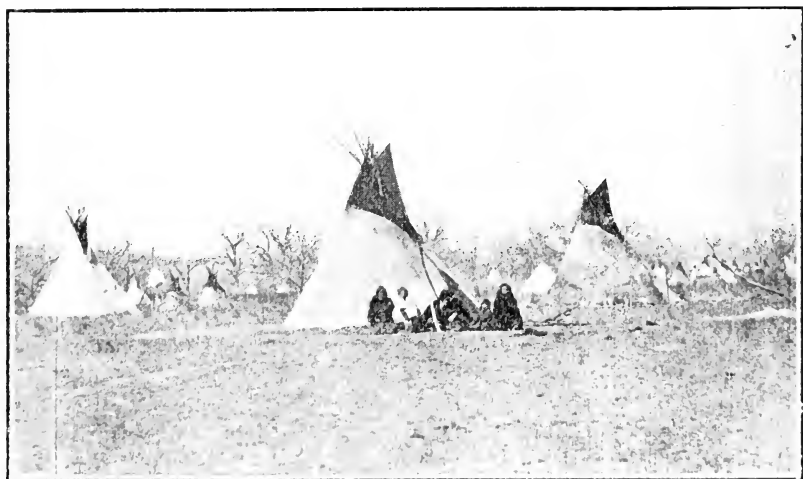
If the story be true, our locality was visited by white men before the settlement of Jamestown or the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers on New England's shores.



CABIN OF THE KAWS



GROUP OF KAW INDIANS WHO LIVED ON KAW RESERVATION



Kaw Indian Teepees on Kaw Reservation from 1847 to 1873



Cheyenne Chiefs Who Were in the Cheyenne Raid of 1868

## CHAPTER IX

On November 13, 14 and 15, 1873, a most disastrous prairie fire occurred in western Morris county. The smoke could be plainly seen from Council Grove, and our citizens went to the aid of the victims. This town was literally black with charred grass and weeds borne on the wind. James Lindsey was burned to death. The damage was computed at \$50,000.00. There were hard times in 1873. The financial panic that was sweeping the country had a depressing effect upon the merchants. In April, 1874, a temperance reform movement was inaugurated by Rev. Armsby, of the Congregational church, and Rev. Rader, of the M. E. church, South. R. M. Wright, Rev. Joab Spencer, and Dr. Woodworth assisted. There were many meetings held and they were all well attended. McCollom & Mead manufactured brooms that year. In August the grasshoppers rained down upon us and ate everything in the vegetable and fruit line, and even riddled the clothes that hung on the line. They left nothing to eat for either man or beast. Hogs had to be killed the fall of 1874, and the following winter was a memorable one to Council Grove pioneers. Many families moved east. Aid was sent to the stricken localities, but as usual was misappropriated. Council Grove had 800 inhabitants in 1874. The 9th of November, 1875, the Graded school building east of the Conn street bridge burned. Before the fire was out, Shamleffer's mill on the west bank of the Neosho burned. Both were a great loss to the community. July 4, 1876, there was a rousing Centennial celebration. We copy the account of this wonderful event from John Maloy's "History of Morris County:"

The following call was issued for a meeting. "Believing that the occurrence of the coming Centennial Anniversary of our national independence calls for a celebration of the day in keeping with the importance of the occasion, the undersigned respectfully suggest that a mass meeting of the citizens of the county be held at the court house, in Council Grove, Saturday, May 27, for the purpose of making arrangements for a fitting celebration of the Fourth of July." Fifty names were signed to this call. They were prominent citizens from all over the county. Of this fifty, only L. McKenzie, R. M. Farmer, James

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

Simcock, W. F. Shamleffer, J. E. Loomis, P. J. Potts, J. B. Hamilton, F. L. Richter and R. M. Armstrong are living.

This celebration was all that it was planned to be. The procession formed at the court house at 10 a. m., under the orders of the marshals, and marched to the grove in the following order:

1. Council Grove Band.
2. County Officers.
3. Mayors and Councilmen of cities in the county.
4. Secret Organizations of the county.
5. Chariots with 38 young ladies representing the different states.
6. Chariots with 13 young ladies representing the 13 original states.
7. Company of Horribles under command of Gen. J. B. Munson.
8. Citizens in order.

### ORDER OF EXERCISES

Opening remarks by President of the Day, T. S. Huffaker.  
Prayer, Rev. G. A. Irvin.

Music, Choir.

Reading Declaration of Independence, Levi Brigham, of Parkerville.

Music by Band.

Reading of Historical Sketch of Morris County by John Maloy.

Music by Choir.

Addresses appropriate to the day by distinguished orators, with music by the Choir and Band during intermission.  
President of the Day, T. S. Huffaker.

Marshals of the Day, C. H. Titus, of Parkerville; Assistants, J. B. Munson, of Council Grove; G. W. Coffin, Elm Creek; H. H. Knox, Valley; W. D. Kahl, Neosho; P. J. Potts, Diamond Valley; S. D. Wesson, Highland; W. R. Bigham, Rolling Prairie; Joseph Mays, Clark's Creek; J. B. Murray, Ohio.

Committee on Program.

J. P. Stover,  
T. S. Huffaker,  
L. McKenzie,

There were at least 3,000 people in the procession. It was over two miles in length, and it required over an hour for it to pass any given point. When this variegated caravan reached Shamleffer's Grove it found over a thousand people already assembled. At near noon the vast assemblage was called to order by Judge T. S. Huffaker, president of the day, then music by the band, after which Rev. J. O. Foresman offered prayer. The Declaration of Independence was read by Levi Brigham, of Parkerville. The dinner hour was spent in social intercourse, neighborly greetings and the exhaustive discussion of the almost inexhaustible supply of everything that was designed for food. After dinner, the exercises of the day were resumed. John Maloy read an epitomized history of Morris county. Then came a series of toast and responses, occupying over two hours. Prominent among the responses was that of Col. J. T. Bradley, to the toast, "The Nation." The theme was handled with great credit to the speaker, and the liberality of the sentiments he expressed was not less heartily applauded than was his polished rhetoric and eloquent diction. "Public schools" was responded to by Rev. G. A. Irvin, as only a life-long teacher, in the broadest sense of the term could do. "The Nation's Honored Dead" was assigned to Rev. H. Ritchie, and his response justified the wisdom of the selection. Captain C. H. Titus responded to "Our Citizen Soldiers" in truly "Websterian" style. The late T. K. Johnson spoke eloquently of "The Bar." "The Press" was responded to by F. A. Moriarty, lately one of the editors of the Council Grove Republican. "The Producers of the West" was the subject of the remarks of Captain Robert McMillan, several years since deceased. He was a practical man and made a practical talk. "The American Eagle" was attended to by Judge E. Smalley, then probate judge of Morris county. The judge paid a high tribute to the "proud bird of freedom," the boss bird of our national poultry yard. Thus ended a day remarkable for its certainty not to occur again for one hundred years, important in its historical significance, and altogether for our people a most happy, joyous and patriotic occasion.

The first day of August, 1876, the colored people celebrated Emancipation Day. Rev. Daniel Walker was president of the day. Rev. Green Majors delivered the address. D. R. Reed

or Bee Reed, as he was called, lectured on Woman Suffrage and Temperance.

S. M. Corey bought the Commercial House in 1876 and celebrated by giving a free dinner. It is needless to say that it was well attended. The winter of 1877 was very cold. J. C. Carpenter started a plow factory that year and turned out a fine grade of plows. The mill by the Missouri Pacific track was built in 1877. In 1878 the first public library was founded. It was in the possession and care of the A. O. U. W. Lodge, and was burned in the fire of 1886. Another important event in 1878 was the spring election, when the people voted against granting license for saloons. It carried by nine votes. A good feeling prevailed, however, and the open saloon passed out of Council Grove forever. John Maloy was elected mayor. The second bridge, wood and iron, was built across the Neosho in 1878. In May of that year a company of militia was organized. The officers were, captain, J. T. Bradley; lieutenant, H. E. Richter, first sergeant, H. C. Finney; second sergeant, A. J. Marks; corporals, R. S. Davidson, Fred Dunn, W. F. Waller; orderly sergeant, Elwood Sharp. H. C. Finney became captain soon after the organization, and he, Al Marks and Elwood Sharp are the only members of the militia now living in Council Grove. The Morris County Exposition Company was organized that year, and the first county fair was held in October, 1878. Prof. H. S. Perkins conducted a musical convention here in the spring of 1879. It was repeated the next year. A. W. Simcock, the leading musician of Council Grove, was the accompanist. The glorious Fourth was celebrated in the usual way in 1879. On this occasion the ladies of the city presented the militia, under Captain Finney, with a beautiful silk banner. Miss Norah Webb made the presentation speech. The newspaper of that day says: "It was a pretty speech, in which she implored them not to rush needlessly into danger."

The ten years ending 1880 brought many changes to our people. The boys and girls of the 60's were grown up. Some were married and had families. The Dill girls, the Brown girls, the Webb girls, the Anderson girls, the McGeorge girls, Anna Anderson, Katie Rightley, Anna Cassingham, were added to the list. Fred Dunn and Elwood Sharp had grown up. W. F. Waller, W. O. Atkeson, M. L. Ritchie, R. S. Davidson, Will An-

derson, George Irvin, Cal Jones, John Boss, Sid Clark and J. M. Miller were among the young men who came in this period.

There were dinners with eight-layer cakes. The silver castor was in evidence at all up-to-date dinner parties. The Dolly Varden hat, lace mitts and side lace shoes were among the latest styles. Several pianos were found in the town. There were entertainments galore, and our girls were going away to study music. When they returned the contortions they performed with the Rock of Ages and other good old-time hymns were a nine days' wonder to the old-fashioned people of that time. The younger set took notice and copied after their talented sisters. Silver Waves, Grant's March and The Maiden's Prayer, piano solos, were mastered by many of the society belles. There were many exhibitions which proved the talent and musical ability of the residents of Council Grove in the 70's and 80's.

Blind Tom, The Bell Ringers and Uncle Tom's Cabin came once in a while, and altogether, the old town was enjoying a taste of real life.

## CHAPTER X

After 1880 we recall many families who called Council Grove home. A. Curtis, J. J. Crowley, A. M. Root, Matthew Robertson, N. S. Flack, F. Lower, P. H. Hankins, P. J. Potts, W. E. Sherfey, Dr. Flack, John Aplington, D. H. Brown, A. Moser, H. Morehouse and O. S. Tenny came in this decade.

In 1880 the population of Council Grove was 1,042. This year, when Garfield and Arthur, Hancock and English, were in the race for president, our city put on all sorts of festivities. The Democrats had a barbecue in Shamleffer's Grove which eclipsed all former efforts in this line. Mr. Maloy, in his Morris County History, states that "there were political clubs and political clubs, but this old-fashioned barbecue eclipsed them all, with its 3,000 people and 2,000 feet of tables filled with all sorts of eatables, from oxen down to spring chicken. With Col. Hughes marshal of the day, and Gov. Ross, Judge John Martin and General Blair as speakers. He goes on to say "the truth of history compels us to state that the Democratic vote did not pan out on election day as well as the barbecue, as everything went Republican from the president to coroner."

A home talent company produced the opera "Fatinitza" the winter of 1881. Dr. F. B. Lawrence, now of Eldorado, had the leading part. A. W. Simcock was director, and his wife, Mrs. Simcock, was accompanist. The company gave the opera in the court room. It was also given in Emporia, where they were highly appreciated.

The Topeka, Salina & Southwestern Railroad bonds carried April 25, 1881. This was later taken over by the Missouri Pacific Railway and is our present Missouri Pacific line. We had a near cyclone June 9, 1881. A woman was killed south of town and several barns and small buildings were blown down in town.

W. O. Atkeson aroused the ire of our citizens by trying to change the name of Council Grove to something more poetical. Hon. E. G. Ross, afterward Governor of New Mexico, gave Mr. Atkeson's effort its death blow in an article he published in a Lawrence paper, and the name Council Grove is still with us today.

In 1846, when Doniphan's expeditionary forces passed

through Council Grove, an officer of a Missouri regiment died here of cholera. He was buried near the sight of the old Congregational church. Thirty-six years later, in 1883, the Secretary of War ordered the remains moved to the military cemetery in Leavenworth. This order was carried out by a detachment of soldiers sent out for that purpose. In 1883, the Missouri Pacific Railway was completed from Kansas City to Wilsey. Dick Smith and Jerry Donovan took the first train through here to Wilsey. This railroad was the Topeka, Salina & Western at the time the bonds were voted. It was started with the intention of building the road from Topeka to Salina. However, after it was taken over by the Missouri Pacific it was laid as far east as Ottawa, and later to Kansas City. With the railroad, business began to improve and real estate increased in value and land agents were numerous. The winter of 1885 and 1886 was very cold and there were many blizzards and snow blockades. In 1886 a street car line was chartered and later built and operated. The car was drawn by a mule, and the line extended from the court house to the Missouri Pacific depot. Uncle Verge Roberts was the conductor and driver. The fare was five cents. This street car line was in operation about ten years.

The big fire of September 19, 1886, destroyed the business block from the Arway Hotel to Neosho street, and burned several smaller buildings and a residence north of the business houses. The wind was blowing a gale, and although the people fought the flames as best they could, their efforts were of little avail until the wind died down. The women formed a bucket brigade and brought water from the river. This fire made its way into nearly every kind of business. Banks, printing office, hardware, and nearly every line was crippled in some way. Some of the firms met with entire loss. The loss was \$100,000.00 to the town.

The last three years of the 80's were marked with public improvements. A water system, creamery and canning factory were built. New additions were platted and new building were replacing those destroyed by fire in 1886. There were many changes in the people from 1880 to 1900. Many of the pioneers either died or moved away. A number of new families moved here. The presidential years brought flambeaux clubs, torch-

light processions, and the usual representation of all the states in the Union, with the Goddess of Liberty. The roller skate was introduced during this decade and the Marks Rink was the scene of many frolics. Autograph albums were the craze, and the red plush photograph albums were beginning to adorn the parlor tables. A balloon ascension or a visit from the Rain Makers sometimes created a diversion.

There was an entire change in the young people from 1880 to 1890. The Adelphians and Sazeracs were part of the social life of the town during this decade. The young people of the 60's were settled in business and homes of their own, and their children were attending the public schools. During the next ten years there was an increase in our population incident to the Missouri Pacific shops being located here. Many new homes were built and all lines of business were well represented. Electric lights and telephones had come. We had street lights, which were a great improvement over the old lamp posts. People were riding in phaetons and surreys, and to own a well groomed horse was a part of living.

The flood of 1903 was another disastrous blow to the town and community, but like all other events of similar nature it demonstrated the courage of the people. The flood followed a month of rain, and a cloud-burst west of town and one at White City caused a volume of water to rush down both the Neosho and Elm creek at the same time. The water reached from Belfry street to the M. K. & T. tracks, and was in many of the homes of the town. Three people were drowned. A fire broke out in the M. R. Smith lumber yard and burned part of the block west of the Farmers and Drovers Bank. The Main street bridge was washed away. It was several months before the new bridge was completed. A few years later, this bridge was replaced by the present concrete bridge, and the iron bridge was moved to Conn street. The flood of 1903 was followed by several other less destructive floods, and the summer was one that will be remembered by the residents for all time to come. The year previous, in 1902, the water came down Mission street, and over Main street, but was not the depth of the 1903 flood. In June, 1904, it was very high again, about the depth of the 1902 flood. Old settlers living here at that time

recalled the Indian stories of the flood of 1849, when the Neosho reached from bluff to bluff.

A mention of our colored people is necessary to complete the history of Council Grove. After the war many of them located here. Among them were the Choteaus, the Majors, the Mosbys, Uncle Jake and Aunt Judah Welcher. The return of their son, Jake Welcher, Jr., who was lost in the South, was a happy incident for them. This son is Jake Welcher, now living west of town. There were the Walkers, McGees, Campbells, Rossmans, Bosleys, Brittians, Aunt Hulciah, Aunt Vina, Cupid Rogers, Mike and Ellen Hooker, and a host of others. Tom Woods has been here fifty years and is the oldest resident among the colored people. These people have had a well organized church and a good building for many years.



D. H. BROWN



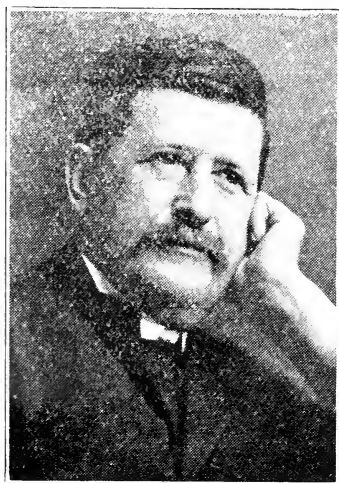
J. M. MILLER



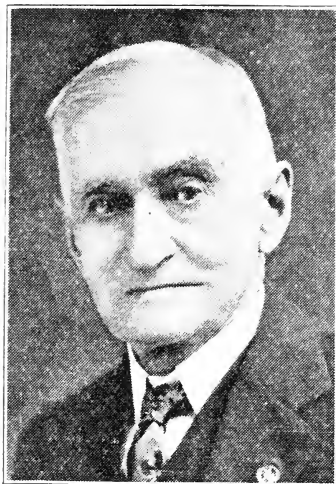
MRS. J. M. MILLER



MRS. A. G. CAMPBELL



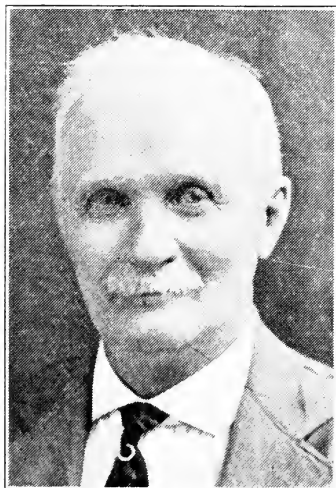
A. G. CAMPBELL



LEWIS MEAD



MRS. LEWIS MEAD



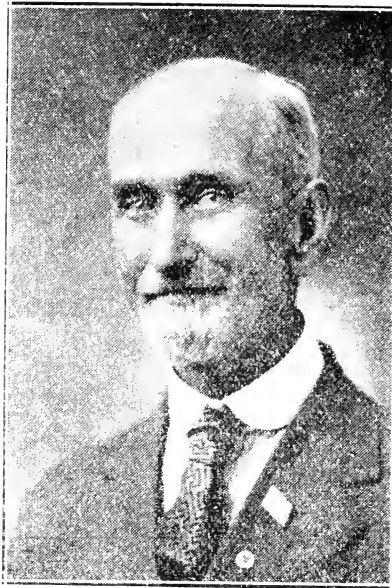
A. J. MARKS



MRS. A. J. MARKS



A. MOSER, JR.



P. J. POTTS



H. E. RICHTER



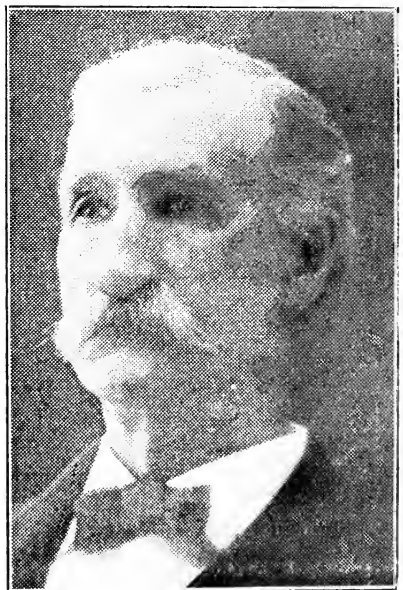
GEORGE METHE



M. B. NICHOLSON



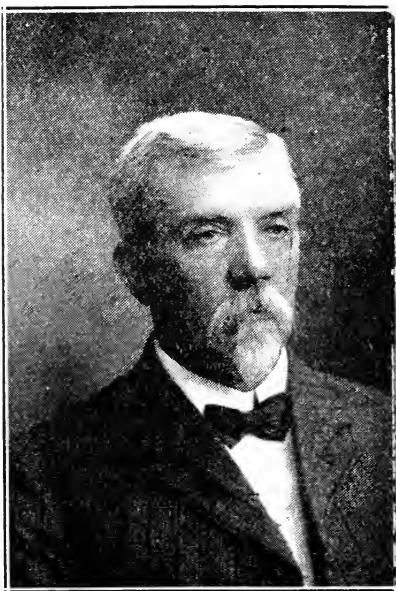
GEORGE P. MOREHOUSE



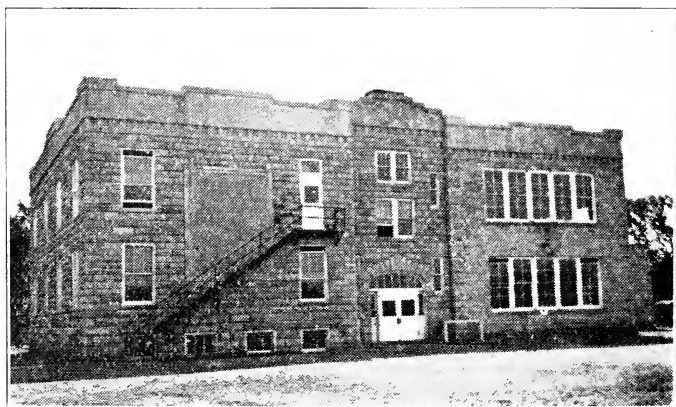
JOHN MALOY



JOHN APLINGTON



HUGH STEWART



GARFIELD SCHOOL

## CHAPTER XI

With the rapid strides of progress in science and education which marked the first years of the twentieth century. Council Grove has endeavored to keep pace with the times. Our schools date back to May, 1851, when Mr. Huffaker taught the few white children who lived here, which was the first school for white children in Kansas. For several years school was held in the Mission. A small frame building on the present site of the Missouri Pacific passenger depot was the first school house in Council Grove, and was built about 1856. It was called District No. 1. In 1858 the Brown Jug was built and called District No. 2. These two school districts, with the Neosho dividing them, caused many school wrangles in the early 60's. The east side school, District No. 1, had only three months session, and District No. 2 had six or seven. When District No. 1 school ended the pupils came over to the Brown Jug, and then the east and west side members of the school board would air the injustice of a long term on the west side and a short term on the east side. Each district made separate appropriations. When the Graded school was built by both District No. 1 and District No. 2, the controversy abated. Years later all of Council Grove became District No. 50, as it is today. In those days applicants for positions as teachers filed bids with the school board. Often the lowest bidder won the place. Rev. J. H. Prichett, minister to the M. E. church, South, was the first teacher in the Brown Jug. The first graded school, a two-story brick, stood east of the Conn street bridge, and was built in 1865. It was located in one of the numerous groves in that locality, and was surrounded by oaks, elms and hickory trees. There were grape vine swings, and sapling hobby-horses to take the place of our modern playground equipment. There were bluebells, larkspurs and violets in profusion. Best of all was the school's proximity to the old wooden foot-bridge. Of all the shrines that once were a part of Council Grove, none could tell more romantic tales than this old wooden foot-bridge. It was built in 1872 by B. R. Scott and Anderson, and was six feet wide. On its wooden railing were carved the initials of the fair maids and sturdy swains who plighted their vows on this bridge. The school boys and girls who attended

the upper room of the Graded school can recall the beauty of the spot. With only the trees, whose overhanging branches shaded the bridge and the rippling waters beneath, what better trysting place could be found? Just ask the Huffaker girls, the Dillon girls, the Schmidt girls, the Hammond girls, Coonie Sager and Bettie Robbins, Albert Simcock, John Allen, the Stenger boys, George Huffaker and Elwood Sharp. They are all here to tell the story. The burning of the Graded school and the passing of the foot-bridge saddened the hearts of many of our early residents, and even after half a century the memory of their existence is a pleasing picture to recall. The graded school at Main and Fourth streets, east side, was built in 1873 and torn down in 1886. School was held for many years in Huffaker's Hall, the present Bell telephone office. The Washington building was erected in 1882. The Garfield school was erected in 1886 and rebuilt in 1921. The colored people occupied the Brown Jug from 1887 to 1919. They now have a new building in the south part of town. The Wilson high school was completed in 1917 and is a credit to our town. The history of our schools covers a period of 70 years from 1851, when Mr. Huffaker taught the few white children here at that time, to 1921, when we behold the Washington and Garfield grade schools and the Wilson high school with 740 pupils. That seventy years is a long road to travel and many pioneers have come and gone. Buildings have been erected and torn down, but the old Mission still stands a monument of the past, to greet today our modern schools and method of education. It would be pleasant to recall the teachers, who in the seventy years have served the people, but that is impossible. Mrs. Mattie Harris has the record of teaching a greater number of years in Council Grove and Morris county than any other teacher, having taught in all thirty-seven years in Kansas—twenty-six years in Council Grove, seventeen of them on the East Side.

The high school was organized in 1889, by Prof. J. M. Rhodes. There was a two-year course at that time. In 1891 the first class graduated. There were seven in this class. In 1906, a three-year course was adopted and in 1909 a four-year course. Since the first graduating exercises in 1901, 457 have finished the high school course. There are 190 pupils enrolled (1921) in our high school and 740 in the town. The Class of

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

1921 had 29 members. Our schools have a splendid corps of teachers, both in the high school and in the grade schools. J. J. Haney is superintendent of our city schools. Our high school has in its trophy case twelve cups which have been awarded in musical contests, field meets and basketball tournaments.

The first church organized was the M. E. church, South. The date of the organization was 1855. Rev. J. H. Prichett was the first pastor. The building was the first church building in Council Grove, and was dedicated in 1869. The church disbanded in 1917 and the building was torn down in 1919, just fifty years after it was built. The Presbyterian church was first organized in the Brown Jug in January, 1862, by Rev. Nash. Previous to this, in 1854, a Presbyterian missionary held a meeting in the Mission. In the Council Grove Press the following call for a Presbytery was advertised: "The Presbytery of Kansas will hold a special meeting in Council Grove, Kansas, commencing June 18, 1863. J. Aspenwall, Clerk." Rev. Nash was ordained at this Presbyterial meeting. The organization was abandoned soon after this, but was re-organized in 1874. There were ten original members when it was re-organized. Only R. M. Armstrong is living in Council Grove, who was one of the ten. Mrs. Lucy Schmidt joined soon after and with Mrs. Maloy and Mrs. Nicholson are the only living members of the original aid society. Rev. Irvin was pastor eleven years. The present church building was dedicated May 10, 1885. It is the oldest church building in town. In 1875 John Hamilton presented the church with a pulpit Bible that is still in use. The church was damaged by the flood in 1903. It was partly burned December 3, 1905, and was rebuilt and re-dedicated May, 1906. It was struck by lightning June 3, 1906. Rev. G. H. Cotton, a former pastor, is again in charge of the church.

The Congregational church was organized the first Sabbath in January, 1863. The first meeting was held in the Brown Jug, and later in the Huffaker Hall. October 10, 1872, the old Congregational church was dedicated. It had been damaged by storm the previous April. The first time the bell of this church tolled it was for the funeral of Mr. Ingam. W. A. McCollum was the minister to this church for a number of years after it was organized. The present church building

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was dedicated August 9, 1898. Albert Simcock was organist for this church for over thirty-five years, and from early boyhood was associated with the growth of the church. There are two men whose history is closely allied with that of the Congregaional church, Rev. Lauren Armsby and R. M. Wright. R. M. Wright came here in 1860 and organized a union Sunday school which lasted many years after the first Congregational church was built. Before that the Sunday school was held in the Brown Jug. He also conducted singing school during the 60's. With his wife and family they were faithful adherents to the Congregational church. Mr. Wright and Wes Simcock gave the ground on which the church and parsonage now stand. Mr. Wright was superintendent of the Sunday school most of the time during his forty years' residence in Council Grove. They helped build the new church and both of them attended services there for a year or more after it was built. Mr. Wright fought valiantly for the cause of temperance and helped free Council Grove from the open saloon. Mr. and Mrs. Wright passed away in 1900.

Father Armsby came to Council Grove in June, 1873, a few months after the old church was built. He served the church until 1901, and even after that time, with the assistance of Rev. Spence, attended to some of the duties of a pastor. He was in active service twenty-eight years and belonged to Council Grove, as well as to his congregation. He was known as the "grand old man," and during his thirty-one years' residence here, christenings, marriages, funerals and public gatherings were incomplete without his services or ministrations. His wife was a leading spirit in his work, and they were both the embodiment of love and peace. We quote from the closing lines of his obituary, written by his friend, John Maloy, which fittingly applied to his life: "Thus he had attained a rich, ripe old age of 87, full of honors and well beloved. From his own he was carried out and laid to rest in the hope of those

"Great truths that pitch their shining tents outside our wall. And though but dimly seen in the gray dawn, they will be manifest when the light widens into perfect day."

Rev. W. T. Williams is now pastor of the Congregational church.

The Methodist church was first organized December 21, 1862, by Rev. McNulty, who preached for them for a short

time. Rev. C. R. Rice helped organize the church and preached here occasionally. Rev. J. E. Bryant, who had been pastor of the South church, changed to the M. E. church during the war and was their regular pastor until 1866, when they disbanded and transferred their membership to Downing. Rev. Bryant was editing the Press at this time. Mrs. Clara Hughes was active in the church from its organization until it was discontinued. In 1876 the church was re-organized. Mrs. Hughes was again active. There were nine charter members. J. W. Dumm and R. M. Rigdon were among its original members. Rev. H. Ritchie was its first pastor. They held services for four years in Huffaker's Hall. The meetings were held jointly with the Presbyterians, each having their own pastor and church service, but they had one Sunday school and one prayer meeting, all attending as one congregation. The stone church was dedicated August 1, 1880. The present church was dedicated in May, 1909. Rev. Oliver C. Bronston is the present pastor of the church. F. T. Behring and family, who came in 1879, are the only family in the church now who were here at that date. Not one of the charter members is living here.

The Baptist church was first organized in 1870, but was not permanent until December 28, 1873, when it was re-organized. Like many of the other churches it was organized in the Brown Jug. Rev. Slaughter was the first minister. Services were held for years in the graded school building on East Main street. In 1884 a brick church building was erected on Union street. The floods of 1902-3 damaged the church so it was torn down in 1909 and services were held in a hall. They now have a nice church building on the corner of Main and Belfry streets, which was dedicated January 12, 1913. The church has no pastor at this time.

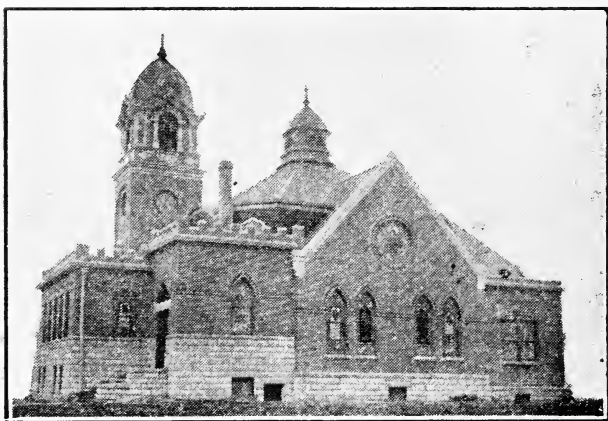
The Christian church was organized in 1881. Rev. Shepherd was the first pastor. There were seventeen charter members. Mrs. Sager, Mrs. Todd Roberts and Mrs. Kenny Roberts were among the seventeen. Their church was moved from the east bank of the Neosho in 1903 and re-modeled in 1906. Rev. B. N. Sypolt is their pastor.

The United Brethren church was organized in 1901 by the late Rev. Williams. The first pastor was Rev. Thomas. The church building was first located in Sampletown, but in 1917

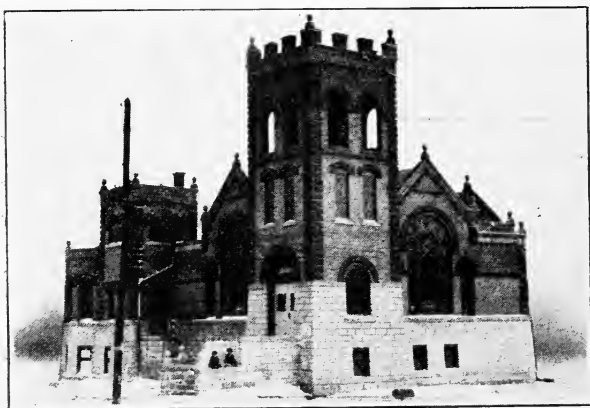
## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

it was moved to East Main street. Rev. Seaton is the present pastor.

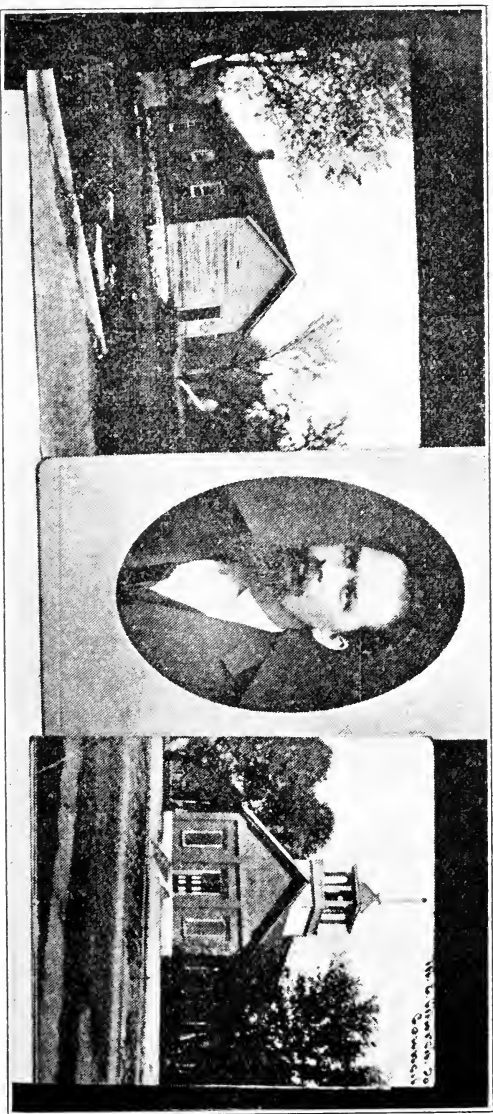
St. Rose's Catholic church of Council Grove was founded in 1883. The Franciscan Fathers of Emporia attended to the wants of the church until 1902, when Father Casey was stationed here. He was followed by Father Mayers and Father Powers. Father Reidy now serves the church. They have a good church building and manse.



METHODIST CHURCH



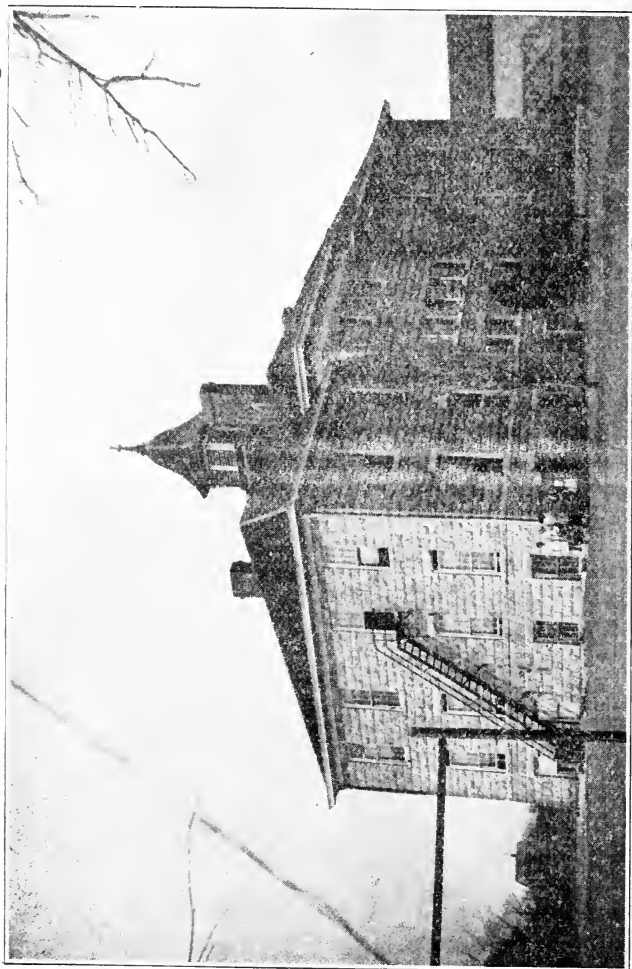
BAPTIST CHURCH



BROWN JUG  
Built 1858—Razed 1919

REV. J. H. PRICHEPP  
First Teacher Brown Jug  
First Minister M. E. Church,  
South

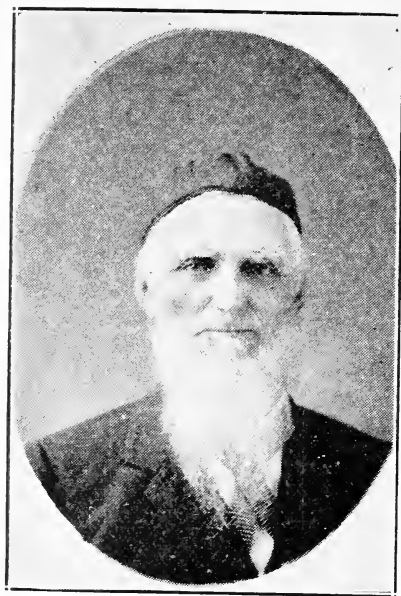
M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH  
Organized 1855  
Church Built 1869  
Razed 1919



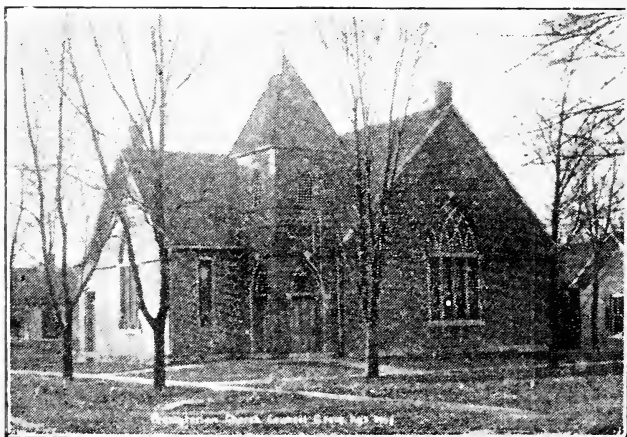
WASHINGTON SCHOOL

WILSON HIGH SCHOOL.



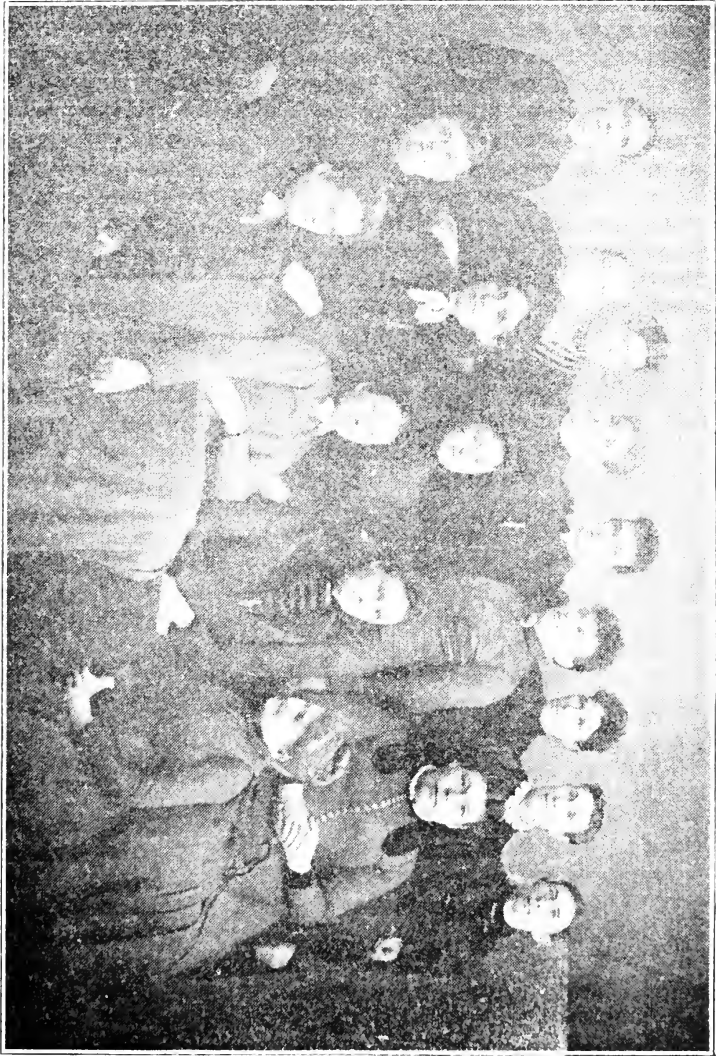


REV. G. A. IRVIN



OLDEST CHURCH BUILDING IN COUNCIL GROVE—1884

PRESBYTERIAN LADIES' AND SOCIETY TENT

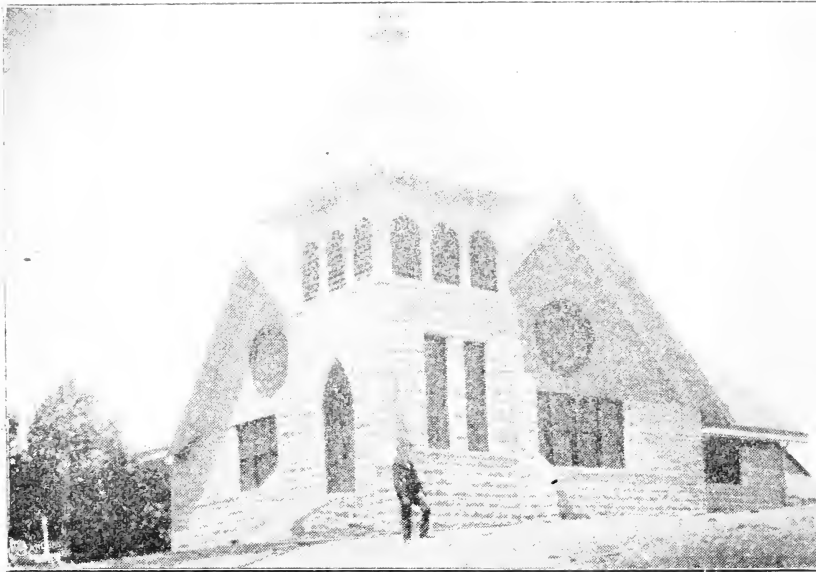




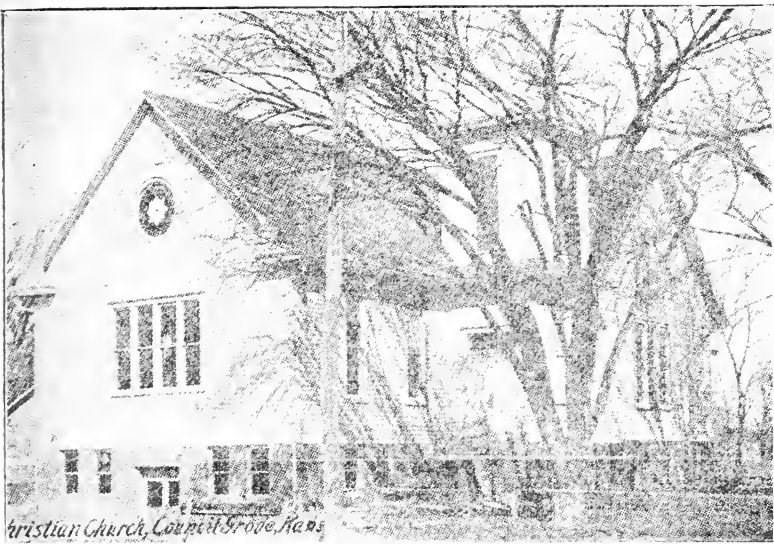
REV. L. ARMSBY



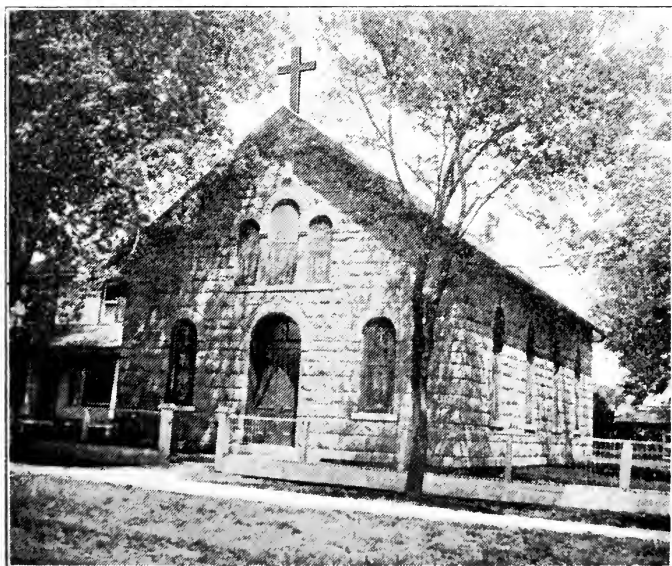
MR. AND MRS. R. M. WRIGHT



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



CHRISTIAN CHURCH



ST. ROSE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## CHAPTER XII

The newspapers of Council Grove form an important part of this history. In 1858, S. N. Wood started the Kansas Press and printed it in Cottonwood Falls and sent the papers to Council Grove. In 1859 it was printed in a little frame building north of the Main street bridge. Jim Dyer worked on this paper in 1860. In 1861 Mr. Wood sold to Judge A. I. Baker, who edited it until he was murdered in 1862. S. N. Wood bought it back after Baker's death. S. N. Wood and family lived here part of the time up to 1866. In 1864 he sold the paper to Rev. J. E. Bryant, who edited it until 1866, when he sold to E. F. Campbell, who changed the name to Council Grove Democrat. After nine months the paper was sold to the Salina Herald.

In 1868 the Advertiser was published by W. H. Johnson. This man was a son of A. S. Johnson, the first white man born in Kansas, and a grandson of Rev. Thomas Johnson, the first missionary to the Shawnee Indians. W. H. Johnson started over fifty newspapers in Kansas.

In 1870 John Maloy started the Council Grove Democrat for Seth M. Hays. Mr. Maloy stayed several months and then returned to Topeka, where he was employed on the Topeka Commonwealth. The Council Grove Democrat was printed in the present kitchen of the Arway Hotel, which was then known as the Hays House. Mr. Maloy returned to Council Grove in October, 1871, and bought the Democrat. John Marrens, Jim Dyer and Fred Dunn worked on this paper. Fred Dunn bought an interest in it about 1876.

The Chronicle was started in 1871 by H. Gregory. In 1872, John T. Bradley edited the first few copies of the Council Grove Republican, and then sold out to Peter Moriarty. Mr. Moriarty died in 1875 and his son, Frank Moriarty, edited the paper. The Advertiser and Chronicle were discontinued soon after they were started, and in 1877 the Democrat and Republican were consolidated, retaining the name "The Council Grove Republican." Moriarty & Dunn ran the paper until it was sold to O. S. Munsell. Later W. F. Waller, W. A. Miller, Jesse Carpenter, Joseph Freishman, Charles Hillebrandt, C. L. Daughters all had their turn. It is now owned by E. D. George. E. T. Jacobs is manager. It is forty-nine years old and still has the same

name, The Council Grove Republican, that it had when it started in 1872.

Ed Dill published the Morris County Times several years. The first issue was in 1879. D. O. Bell was associated with him. The Cosmos was started by W. O. Atkeson in 1882, with W. F. Waller editor. Dill and Bell both worked on the Cosmos and Guard at different times. The Republican and Cosmos were burned in the fire of September 19, 1886. For several weeks neither paper was published and then W. F. Waller, editor of the Cosmos, bought the Republican. The Cosmos was discontinued.

The Guard was first owned and edited by Elwood Sharp. The first issue was August 9, 1884. The paper was strongly Democratic at the beginning, but has changed politics several times. For several years it was a Populist organ, but in 1898 it was bought by M. F. Amrine, the present owner and editor, and is now a Republican paper.

The Advance was published by A. R. Zimmerman 1908-11. Since 1858 the foregoing list of newspapers have been published at some time in Council Grove, but after 63 years we now have only two, The Council Grove Republican, forty-nine years old; and The Guard, thirty-seven years old.

The first club in Council Grove was the Adelphian Sorosis, a society of young ladies, and was organized in 1884. Mrs. Mamie Miller was the first president. There were over thirty members, and all but three are living. At about the same time the Sazaracs, a crowd of young men, organized themselves for the protection of the Adelphians. As the arc light was unknown in the 80's and a lantern was not always sufficient guard for a fair young girl, this was very agreeable to the Adelphians. The Sazaracs were fine young men, as some of the Adelphians who took them for life companions can testify. We all know they were the last word in gallantry.

The T. P. M. Club was organized March 23, 1891. Mrs. Esther J. Curtis was its first president. This club has just celebrated its thirtieth birthday. Mrs. Eugene Root is president.

The Philharmonic, a music club, was organized in 1898, and for a number of years the leading musicians of the town belonged to it. A. W. Simcock was director of the four operas they gave. The Nautilus Club was organized in 1900. Mrs.

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

Mary Harvey was its first president. They have thirty-six members. Mrs. S. A. Feigley is president.

Chapter "H," P. E. O. Sisterhood, was organized July 8, 1903. There were ten charter members. Mrs. Mamie Sharp was first president. There are thirty-seven members in the roll. Some of this number are inactive and others have moved away and joined other chapters. Mrs. Pearl Harvey is president.

The Progressive Circle held its first meeting in March 1913. Mrs. Houston was president. Mrs. Nira Linn is now president.

The Philomathian was organized December 5, 1917. Mrs. Lucy Axe was first president. There are twenty ladies belonging to the club. Mrs. Geo. C. Peck is president.

The Civic Club was organized April 21, 1916. Mrs. Alice Dixon was the first president. Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Caroline White and Mrs. Bertha Sherfey, all deceased, were active members of the club. This club started the movement to place markers at the historic places in and around Council Grove. The Council Oak, South Methodist church, Hermit's Cave, Fremont Springs, Brown Jug school house site, Custer Elm, the Old Bell, and the buildings still standing that were erected before 1860, which include the Mission, built in 1850; Last Chance Store, 1857; Hays House, 1857; Commercial Hotel, 1859; and Stone Store, 1858. Mrs. R. C. Durland was chairman of the Marker committee, which was composed of the following ladies: Mrs. Mamie Sharp, Mrs. L. H. Brigham. This committee was ably assisted in carrying out their plans by J. J. Rhodes, T. W. Whiting, C. H. White and S. A. VanNatta.

The Home-Coming Week beginning June 27, 1921, for "Old Settlers," was planned and carried out by the Civic Club assisted by the Commercial Club, American Legion and other clubs in town.

At this Home-Coming we celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the passage of the first pack train, led by William Becknell, which passed through Council Grove, and made the first known successful journey to New Mexico. There are 170 members in the Civic Club. Mrs. L. H. Brigham is president. Mrs. A. R. Zimmerman, first vice-president; Mrs. R. C. Durland, second vice-president; Mrs. Mamie Sharp, treasurer; Mrs. B. F. Cress, secretary. Past president, Mrs. Jo Jones.

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

The present Commercial Club was organized in the fall of 1910. The first president was C. W. Black. There are 125 members. The membership comprises business and professional men of the town. This club has been a great benefit to our little city. They are up-to-date and push every progressive movement. Harry Clyborne is president and C. W. Black is secretary.

The Country Club was organized the last of April, 1921. T. J. Main is president, Kenneth Dodderidge secretary. There are 100 members. This club has leased sixty acres west of town and have a golf course, tennis courts and swimming pool.

## CHAPTER XIII

The Masonic Lodge was organized December 14, 1861. The following Master Masons were charter members: Thomas White, James Carey, I. L. French, J. B. Collier, Emanuel Mosier, J. B. Rubble, and R. B. Lockwood. This lodge was one of the first organized in Kansas. Thomas White, father of W. H. White, was the first Master. The Masonic Temple was dedicated June 24, 1884. J. Buck, of Emporia, delivered the address. Rev. W. H. Comer responded. The Order of the Eastern Star is a flourishing auxiliary to the Masonic lodge.

The I. O. O. F. No. 43 was organized April 9, 1869. Isaac Sharp, J. T. Stevenson, W. D. Kahl, H. D. Preston and Charles Columbia were charter members. Isaac Sharp was the first Noble Grand. He was also Grand Master of Kansas. The I. O. O. F. Temple was dedicated June 1, 1902. W. F. Shamleffer joined at the organization and R. M. Armstrong in August of the same year. They are the only members living who were in the lodge the year it was organized. R. M. Armstrong held office in this lodge continuously from 1869 to 1915. The Rebekahs are a flourishing order.

There are numerous other lodges—the A. O. U. W., Woodmen, O. M. B. A., Knights and Ladies of Security, and others too numerous to mention. The G. A. R. holds a place of interest in our hearts. Of the boys of '61 who belonged to Council Grove Commandery in 1874, when they first met together, the majority of them have passed over the Great Divide. On May 30, 1886, there were only nineteen graves of soldiers in Greenwood Cemetery. In 1912 there were eighty-three. Today, in 1921, there are 141. During the past year many have left the ranks to join their comrades who have preceded them. F. M. Chase, the commander was among them. The W. R. C. is also diminishing in numbers. There are only 48 members of the W. R. C. living. The Wadsworth Post was first organized in 1874. The Charter and all records were burned the next year. In 1878 it was re-organized under a new charter. B. R. Scott, H. C. Finney and E. E. Rice are the only members at the time of the organization and the re-organization who are still living. There are twenty-two of the Post left. Ten of the G. A. R. and two of the W. R. C. are buried in Four Mile Cemetery. The united

efforts of these two organizations to sustain the ideals for which they fought have been rewarded.

While the span of years between 1861 and 1917 are many, it is fitting that the American Legion be mentioned following the G. A. R. The World War is too recent to dwell upon and the sorrow and sadness that followed in its wake is still with us. The Frederick Phillips Post of the American Legion, whose organization will help perpetuate the memory of the boys who never came back, will be to us in the future what the G. A. R. has been since 1865. In the annals of Council Grove history we honor with reverence the memory of the boys of our town whose only monument in Flanders Fields, the little white cross, bears the names of our own Council Grove soldier boys. And to those who gave their lives before reaching the field of battle we give honor and praise for their courage and sacrifice. Both of these organizations fought that the Stars and Stripes might remain unsullied. The little green tent and the white cross tell the silent story of the patriotism of both the G. A. R. and American Legion. There is a Women's Auxiliary of the Frederick Phillips Post. There are forty-five members. Miss Margaret Simpson is president. Worley Perry is commander of Frederick Phillips Post.

We have three veterans of the Spanish War, S. L. Hinton, Arthur J. Kenwell and Cal Carl.

The 31 Club was an organization started during the World War. The idea of a club to encourage Council Grove soldiers and sailors to do their best originated with Mr. A. H. Strieby. Several similar clubs were started in other towns. The members of the Club kept up a faithful correspondence with the soldiers overseas and in camps in the United States and they had the only memorial service given in Council Grove for the deceased soldiers. They have in the Library a trophy case and framed picture of all the Council Grove soldiers who died or were killed in battle. Council Grove responded to the Red Cross call, and under the leadership of Mrs. Mamie Sharp, chairman Morris County Chapter, A. R. C., did a large amount of work for the production department. She conducted the county work in a highly commendable manner. All drives for money during the war met with a hearty response in Council Grove.

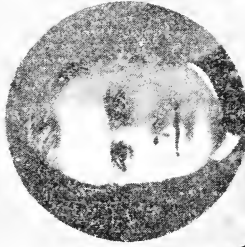
The Boy Scouts, under the leadership of S. L. Hinton, are a live organization.



ARTHUR STENGER



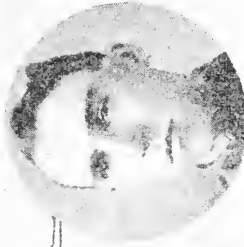
EARL BARNETT



LT. LOY A. PATERSON



LEON ZIMMERMAN



HERBERT STEWARD



SGT. DOUGLAS DIXON



FRED PHILLIPS



FRED HICKMAN



AUBRA BURNS

COUNCIL GROVE BOYS WHO DIED IN SERVICE IN WORLD WAR

## CHAPTER XIV

It is impossible to give a complete history of the business firms that have been a part of the growth of the town. The trade with the freighters and Indians made the early history of Council Grove, and all pioneer business men and firms have been mentioned in the first few chapters of this story. When the Santa Fe Trail ended in 1866 there was a change in many of the business firms, but in 1870, with the influx of people from Ohio and Kentucky, business began to pick up. Of the firms doing business from 1870 to 1875, George Methe Jewelry Company is the only firm still in existence. He started his present business in 1872. Mr. Methe has had a good business all these forty-nine years. Mr. Christian Stenger has assisted him for forty-three years. The Gibson & Davidson Hardware Company dates back to 1876. Mr. Davidson sold to Harry Clyborne in April, 1909, and it has since been known as the Gibson & Clyborne Hardware Company. Other firms near the beginning in 1870 were the Warwick & Anderson Dry Goods Company, J. P. Brown & Company, dry goods, Shamleffer & James, R. M. Armstrong & Company, Sam Strieby, wagon maker, C. H. Strieby & Columbia, blacksmiths, McNay & Stover, real estate, G. M. Simcock and A. J. Chipman, Morris County Mills, J. T. Stevenson, tailor, W. R. Terwilliger, dealer in cattle, John Wise, dealer in nursery stock, A. Millison, blacksmith, Lloyd Ferrell, fruit stand at west end of bridge, Richter Bros., drug store, Albert Simcock, book store, J. C. Carpenter, blacksmith, F. T. Behring, implements, D. C. Webb, dry goods, R. M. Rigdon, groceries, J. W. Dumm, furniture, McCollom & Mead, hardware, B. R. Scott, & Anderson Lumber Company, Henry Gentes, groceries, A. G. Campbell, drug store.

From 1880 to 1900, among the new firms listed were Frank Lower & Company, Beach & Starr, later called Beach & Stocker, Badger Lumber Company, Eugene Koph, drugs, Best & Brigham, clothiers, Beach & Kilby ran the Regulator, J. M. Henson the Indicator, A. S. Crowley Dry Goods Company, E. M. Gale, meat market, M. Schultheis, groceries, J. J. Crowley, harness maker, M. R. Smith Lumber Company, Captain A. Curtis, real estate and loans, N. Trowbridge, drugs, H. Morehouse, Van Camp & Tenney, M. Gentes, groceries, R. H. Morehouse, jewelry.

Since 1900 there has been a number of changes. Among the older firms, the A. S. Crowley store was bought by John King and A. R. Kinkle, and conducted for many years under the name of the Leader. It is now owned by N. S. Flack. F. A. Robbins has been in the drug business since 1900. J. J. Rhodes bought the Smith lumber yards in 1903. The Burgner-Bowman yard was in charge of Herbert Keith until his death eight years ago. Grover McCrabb is now manager. Dr. W. B. Hunter bought the Gregory drug store. C. W. Black and Alex Puryear bought the Economy and J. W. Dumm furniture stores and were in business for a number of years. Durland & Block are now doing business in the J. W. Dumm store, and W. H. Woods in the old Black & Puryear stand. Durland & White have been in the Old Stone Store for many years. T. M. Throp started his store early in 1901. G. W. Cleek conducted a racket store for a number of years. Loy & Raley were in the grocery and general merchandise business. G. W. Simpson & Son have been in business since 1902, having purchased the Van Camp grocery store. The Forester Dry Goods store was started three years ago. L. D. Kneeland has the store the Holke Bros. owned for so many years. L. C. Roberts, Tom Yadon, The Palace, The Farmers Store, Allen Grocery, have all been started within the last five years. A. J. Kenwell bought the Leech drug store. The Klassy Kandy Kitchen, Woods Candy Kitchen, and the Palace of Sweets are up-to-date refreshment parlors. A. C. Van Camp, Dodderidge Bros., Hammer & Hammer Feed Company, Fleming & Son, produce, and the Saunders Mills are all flourishing businesses. A. L. Pullins and Barth & Ruch have fine meat markets. Leslie Smith has a book store, and F. E. Gurtler and H. C. Brueggen each run a variety store. George Methe, F. E. Pirtle & Company, and Scholes Bros. jewelry stores are a credit to the business circles of Council Grove. C. J. Dillon and F. E. Taylor each deal in new and second-hand furniture. Green & Kirkpatrick conduct marble works. There are several fine garages, each of them located in good substantial buildings. There are two filling stations. Zellner-Warner and Main & Jasper each conduct a men's furnishing store. Dilley Bros. have a fine bakery. James Sharpe & Son are our horticulturists and own a large acreage of fine orchards just east of town. A. B. Stahley has an exclusive shoe

store, S. A. Feigley a tailor shop, W. E. Nix and A. R. Zimmerman have job printing offices, and Don Yoder has a photo studio.

There are three banks. The Farmers and Drovers dates back to 1882. The present bank building was erected in 1887. W. H. White has been the president since its organization. Adam Moser was cashier for over twenty-six years. He was followed by L. H. Brigham. E. D. Scott is the present cashier. C. H. White and B. R. Scott are vice-presidents.

The Council Grove National Bank was formerly the Morris County State Bank, and was organized in 1882. Lewis Mead has been its president since its organization. In 1900 it became a national bank. A. H. Prater has been its cashier since 1902.

The Citizens State Bank was started in 1913. Gabriel Frank is the president of the bank. M. E. Leatherwood has been the cashier since the organization of the bank.

The first bank organized in Council Grove was in 1870. It was called the Savings Bank and was located in a small building where the Palace Grocery now stands. There were several banks organized between the time of the first one in 1870 to 1882, but they either sold out or discontinued.

No hotel in Kansas is more highly spoken of than the Cottage House, conducted by Mrs. Lewis Mead. It is modern, artistically decorated and furnished. Guests at the Cottage House always manage to return if possible. The Arway Hotel, built in 1857 and called the Hays House, has many romances woven around its title. It is located on the spot of the first house built in Council Grove in 1847. W. A. Cripe is the proprietor.

There are a number of real estate and insurance firms in town. We have a good laundry run by Morris & Pattison. J. B. Sorter and Henry Blim & Sons are each old-time blacksmiths. There are several barber shops, restaurants, lunch counters and pool halls. The old Etta opera house is used as an armory by Company C, Kansas National Guards. Geo. C. Peck is captain. Mr. Peck is head of the Peck Construction Company, and has done a lot of building in Council Grove. The Stella Theatre compares favorably with city play houses. It was built by T. W. Whiting in 1916. Mr. Whiting named the theatre "Stella" for his daughter, Mrs. Glen Kelley, and made her a present of the deed. W. R. Bratton bought the Stella

Theatre in April in 1921, and is now owner and manager. He has recently decorated and re-seated the house.

Mr. Whiting has done a great deal for Council Grove by building bungalows and selling them on the payment plan, making it possible for many people to own their own homes. He has built one theatre, two store rooms, one garage, twenty bungalows. He also owns the Arway Hotel. The Carnegie Library was built in 1916. It has a rest room furnished by the women's clubs of Council Grove, and a community room where club meetings are held. The city clerk's office is also in the building. The Library has 3,383 books. Miss Winifred Nicholson is librarian. The Council Grove Hospital, owned by Dr. B. E. Miller, is an up-to-date hospital. It was built in 1916. Dr. A. J. Lewis has a private hospital that has been well patronized.

## CHAPTER XV

Our professional men, since Council Grove was a settlement, have been many. Dr. J. H. Bradford, the first doctor to locate here, came in 1858. About thirty years ago he moved to Oklahoma, where he is still living. He is 102 years old. He was followed by Dr. Beach and Dr. Woodworth. Dr. Beach lived in the brick house on Main street, across from the Congregational church. Dr. Woodworth owned the lots where the Carnegie Library and Mrs. Borkett's home now stand. The three doctors were quite active in all the affairs of interest to the town. They never agreed on anything, so their arguments always had to have three sides instead of two. Dr. Martin, father of Mrs. Pullins and Mrs. Bennett, located here in 1870. Dr. Dill, father of Mrs. Jessie Morris, came about the same time. Dr. Noland, Dr. Prothrow, Dr. McConnell, Dr. Day. Dr. Painter, Dr. Z. T. Harvey and Dr. W. E. Crawford all practiced here some time during the last thirty years of the nineteenth century. Dr. Painter died in 1905, Dr. Z. T. Harvey in 1900. Since 1900 Dr. Lewis Harvey and Dr. Leland Harvey, sons of Dr. Z. T. Harvey, Dr. J. H. Jaquith, Dr. W. H. H. Smith, Dr. Will Harvey, Dr. B. E. Miller, Dr. W. H. Snow, Dr. R. B. Hutchinson, Dr. A. J. Lewis and Dr. C. C. Kerr have been among our leading physicians. Dr. W. E. Crawford practiced for several years after 1900. He is still residing here. Dr. J. H. Jaquith died in 1915, Dr. Leland Harvey in 1916 and Dr. Smith in 1918. Dr. Fred Corey has practiced dentistry in Council Grove for thirty-four years. Dr. Will White has been a dentist since 1901 and practiced twenty years in Council Grove. Dr. B. H. Crawford, son of Dr. W. E. Crawford, located in Council Grove after his graduation and has practiced continuously except the two years he served in the World War. Dr. E. R. Swain came about five years ago and has been one of our leading dentists.

Sam N. Wood was the first lawyer to locate in Council Grove. He came in 1859. Isaac Sharp, Ephraim Sandford, J. B. Sommers, A. J. Hughes, and Duncan McDonald were all lawyers here in the 60's. E. S. Bertram, J. T. Bradley, Porter Roberts, T. K. Johnson, John Maloy, M. B. Nicholson, J. M. Miller, M. L. Ritchie, J. K. Owens, John Aplington, W. O.

Atkeson, D. H. Brown, all located here between 1870 and 1890. Since 1890 we have had George P. Morehouse, W. H. Pirtle, Clarence Crowley, Edwin Anderson, Walter Doggett, Henry Torgeson and Harry Snyder. E. S. Bertram died many years ago, John Maloy in 1912, Clarence Crowley in 1916, M. B. Nicholson in 1919, D. H. Brown in 1920.

We have a competent corps of county officers: Mrs. Flora E. Davis is county superintendent of schools, Mrs. Pearl Harvey is register of deeds, Mrs. Oriel C. Thomas clerk of the district court, F. A. Robbins county clerk, H. E. Snyder county attorney, A. W. Loomis probate judge, Fred T. Brown sheriff, James McKenzie county engineer, W. W. Askren county treasurer. Mrs. Ethel Kinkle is county treasurer-elect and will take her office next October. Our commissioners are A. G. Alexander, Ralph Felton and S. N. Stranathan. The County Farm Bureau Agent is Paul B. Gwin. For city officers we have J. M. Pemberton, mayor; E. D. Scott and H. C. Wilson, commissioners; R. M. Armstrong, city clerk; J. W. Campbell, city treasurer. Members of the school board are J. S. Loy, Tom Yadon, A. E. Gilman, A. L. Pullins, M. F. Amrine, Vern Coltrane. A. H. Prater is treasurer of the school board.

## CHAPTER XVI

Some of our former residents, and a few of our citizens who are still with us have tasted the joys of fame. Col. S. N. Wood, who edited the first Council Grove newspaper, and who was the first lawyer in Council Grove, was instrumental in freeing Kansas from slavery, and his efforts in wresting the territorial legislature from the hands of the border ruffians form many chapters in Kansas history. Col. Wood was an uncle of Arthur Wood, manager of the Farmers Store.

The late M. B. Nicholson was admitted to the bar in 1872 and he practiced in Morris county continuously until his illness in the fall of 1918. He was a member of the Morris county bar forty-six years. No lawyer in Morris county had as long a record in the practice of law as Mr. Nicholson. He was judge of the Eighth judicial district for eight years.

Hon. J. M. Miller was congressman of the Fourth district for twelve years. He served on a number of important committees while in Congress, and was sent to Panama and the Philippines in the interest of the United States government.

Col. H. E. Richter was lieutenant-governor for two years under Governor Hoch. He was also state senator of this district.

W. O. Atkeson, a former resident of Council Grove, lawyer and newspaper man, was elected congressman from Butler, Missouri, in 1920. A. B. Reeves, author of the Craig Kennedy stories, lived at the Cottage House for a long time, and had many friends in Council Grove. A. R. Kinkle was state senator for one term. Major Stover was lieutenant-governor under Governor Osborne in 1872 and later was elected state senator. Lemuel Kilby, a former Council Grove boy, is now one of the leading musicians in Chicago. Ellis Davidson has written several articles for magazines and for some time had a prominent place on the Springfield, Massachusetts, Republican. Many of our boys distinguished themselves during the World War. They are too numerous to mention. Dr. Morris Simpson was the only Council Grove or Morris county boy who won the Croix-de-Guerre while in service in the World War.

C. W. Black has been prominent in the National Old Trails Road Association and was successively state organizer, member

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

national executive committee, national first vice-president, national assistant to the president, and chairman of the national executive committee. This committee, in co-operation with Judge Lowe, has full authority over the affairs of the road from sea to sea. Part of this road follows the Santa Fe Trail and is of special interest to people in Council Grove. There are forty-seven miles of permanent hard surfaced roads authorized to be built in Morris county, and the greater part of it is the National Old Trails Road. The Council Grove Commercial Club has helped boost this Old Trails road.

T. W. Whiting was president of the Kansas Trails Association and was instrumental in having the Santa Fe Trail link of the National Old Trails road registered immediately after Governor Capper on April 2, 1915, signed the bill relating to the naming and marking of highways. No other road or link can appropriate the name Santa Fe Trail, under penalty of law.

A. W. Simcock, while still in his teens was noted as a musical prodigy. He composed "Grasshopper Waltz" the year the grasshoppers devastated Kansas. During his fifty years residence in Council Grove he was the leader in all musical affairs.

No former citizen of Council Grove has won for himself more honor along literary lines than Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse, who was a resident of Council Grove until 1906, when he moved to Topeka. We quote the following from "Who Is Who in America," Volume II, which among other things, says:

"George Pierson Morehouse, lawyer and writer, went to Kansas in 1872. Admitted to the bar in 1889 and practiced law at Council Grove, Kansas. City attorney 1891-5; county attorney of Morris county 1894-7; district attorney Santa Fe Railway 1894-1915; state senator 23rd district 1901-5; removed to Topeka 1906; member of International Society of Archaeologists; life member and director of Kansas Historical Society; president Kansas State Historical Society 1917-18; president Kansas Authors Club 1909-10; secretary Kansas Authors Club 1913-22; member Kansas State Bar Association; lieutenant Kansas National Guards 1903; active in organizing Kansas State Guard to take the place of National Guards during the World War; commissioned captain, commanding Co. B, 9th Battalion Kansas State Guard 1918-19, and helped train over 300 men for World War service; as state senator drafted the first automobile laws in the West, and the law making the sunflower the floral emblem of Kansas; originated the movement to mark the old Santa Fe Trail and other historic highways; an authority on history, language and legends of Kansas, or Kaw, Indians,



GEORGE PIERSON MOREHOUSE

and is the official historian of the tribe (appointed at their last council meeting years ago), and keeper of their ancient charts and relics."

Mr. Morehouse has written a great many prose articles, booklets and pamphlets, and a number of poems. Many of these writings are of local interest to Council Grove people, as they bear the title of some of our historic shrines. Among them are "Along the Kaw Trail," "A Famous Old Crossing," "First White School in Kansas," "The Old Bell on Belfry Hill," "Custer Elm," and "The Neosho." Mr. Morehouse has done invaluable service in writing and saving for history so many facts that might have gone into oblivion had he not made extensive research by studying treaties, surveyors' reports, charts and

*Donor of this <sup>99</sup> book to  
New York City Library.*

Morehouse in preserving for posterity the history, language and legends of the Kaw Indians.

Mrs. Alice Brown Yeager, who left Council Grove in 1881 and is now residing in Wichita Falls, Texas, has written a number of magazine articles. She has also written for newspapers and has a number of poems to her credit. Mrs. Yeager's articles are witty and reflect her personality. Mrs. Kate Applington, now living in Miami, Florida, is the author of several books. While a resident of Kansas she wrote "Pilgrims of the Plains" and "Art Museums of America." The Kansas Travelers Art Library owes its birth to Mrs. Applington. Since she became a resident of Florida she has written several books and has made extensive study of the Seminole Indians.

Mrs. Matthew Robertson is a prominent club woman of Los Angeles, California. She was president of the Ebell Club for two years. This club, the largest in the United States, other honors conferred upon her.

Mrs. Lillie Munsell Ritchie has written several children's stories. Some of them have been published in book form. Mrs. Mamie Sharp has the honor of being the champion Red Cross worker of the Southwest Division. She had 6,144 hours to her credit in production work alone. Aside from this she did a great amount of clerical work. Mrs. Sharp was at one time an officer in both the P. E. O. Grand Chapter and Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mrs. E. M. Curtis Root, a former resident of Council Grove, is a well known artist. She was prominent in club work also.

Mrs. J. M. Miller, wife of Congressman Miller, has had many honors conferred upon her. She has been president of the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs, and several times a delegate to the biennial. She has addressed the General Federation and K. F. W. C. many times. She was chairman of Kansas Board of Control a number of years, and was the first woman in the United States appointed to such a position. During her administration she inaugurated splendid prison reforms among women. She is now a member of the Censor Board and lives in Kansas City, Kansas.

Mrs. Kenwell was corresponding secretary of the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs during Mrs. Miller's administration.

Mrs. H. E. Richter was state auditor of the Kansas Federation for one term.

Mrs. Alice Hammer Scott, daughter of Judge Hammer, was reared in Council Grove. She has been prominent in club work and has received high honors in the P. E. O. Sisterhood, having been president of the state organization and organizer of the Supreme Grand Chapter.

Mrs. R. H. Morehouse, of Topeka, a former resident of Council Grove, was the first president of the Fourth District Federation of Women's Clubs. She is a singer and quite prominent in musical circles in Topeka.

Mrs. B. F. Cress was president of the Fourth District Federation of Women's Clubs and is now chairman of the State Civic Department. She is active in club work in Council Grove and is especially interested in work along civic lines.

Mrs. W. A. McCollum will be remembered for her philanthropic movements in Council Grove during the last thirty years of the nineteenth century. She especially interested herself in the health and morals of the community. She also gave a home and support to several orphan children.

Hezekiah Brake, who was an old settler of Morris county and resided in Council Grove several years, wrote a very interesting story of pioneer days, called "On Two Continents."

It would be a great pleasure to name all the people who at some time claimed Council Grove as their home, but it is impossible to do so. At the present time we have many talented and public spirited citizens who interest themselves in the public welfare and take a pride in calling Council Grove their home.

The picturesque surroundings of our little city and the view of the Neosho Valley from Belfry Hill add prestige to the town. Our historical shrines give us an important place in the traditions of the state of Kansas. Even our streets and some of our additions are named for prominent pioneers who helped make history for Council Grove. Wood street was named for Col. S. N. Wood; Huffaker, Simcock, Conn, Hays and Columbia for five of our earliest settlers; Kaw street for the Kaw Indians; Chick street for a man named Jo Chick; Hall street for Jacob Hall, the man who claimed the townsite of Council Grove; Hockaday street for John Hockaday, a Santa Fe Trail overland mail contractor; Fox street for John Fox; Donnon street for a railroad man, and Spencer street for A. B. Spencer.

Pollard's, Fisher's and Mosier's First and Second Additions are all named for early settlers. Sampletown is named for M. K. Sample, who owned the land and platted it for town lots. McPherson's Addition is named for Robert McPherson, an old resident of Council Grove.

So here where East meets West in celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the first pack train that passed through Council Grove in 1821, our thoughts take us back down the trail of years and in imagination we can picture the primitive surroundings that greeted Wm. Becknell as he crossed the Neosho ford, westward bound, in search of new fields for trade. In 1825, the Council of Indians and white men gave birth to the name Council Grove. Ten years later we see the long caravans of Josiah Gregg, Kit Carson with his band of hunters, General Fremont with his party of explorers, and Colonel Doniphan with his regiment of soldiers come into view. Again the picture changes and the fleet footed Indian roams over hill and valley. The first white settler arrives on the scene, and soon others followed and laid the foundation of our town. Schools, churches and newspapers were established. The pack mule, covered wagon and other conveyances of the old trail days when Council Grove was a frontier town, have been supplanted by the steam car, automobiles and aeroplanes. Thus, at the end of the hundred years, in 1921, we find in place of the mule path and wagon road, nine and one-half miles of paving, a White Way, miles and miles of cement walks, a telephone, electric light, water and sewer systems, good churches, modern school buildings, a Carnegie library, substantial business houses and comfortable homes and the town with a population of 2,875 people.

To you, Old Settlers, we give praise and honor, for the firm foundation upon which our town is built. The spirit of the pioneer, whose battle ground was Council Grove challenges the admiration of our citizens of today. Your weapons were courage, perseverance and pride. In recalling the years, of the receding past we realize that in this, the twentieth century, we are enjoying the heritage of your efforts, in days gone by, when you fought so valiantly for Prohibition, Woman's Suffrage and other issues, that make better people and better towns. The last resting place of some of our old settlers

is in our Greenwood Cemetery. To you, and to them, we owe a debt of gratitude and your devotion and service to the town will be a hallowed memory to all. If I only possessed the gift of story telling, what a wealth of romance, tragedy, and comedy I could weave, into the tale of Council Grove. Here we draw the mystic veil of the changeless past, and bestow profound reverence upon all who have played a part in the "Drama of Council Grove."

Whether you have acted the leading role, or taken a minor part, you have earned the lasting gratitude of the present and future generations.

To our citizens of the 20th Century, let us in a spirit worthy of the memories of the past, set our faces toward the future and lay upon the Altar of our town, "the wealth of our talents," "the zeal of youth," "the energy of middle life," and "the wisdom of age;" One hundred years ago a trans-Atlantic Poet reading the signs of the times wrote;

"Westward the course of Empire takes its way;

The first four acts already past;

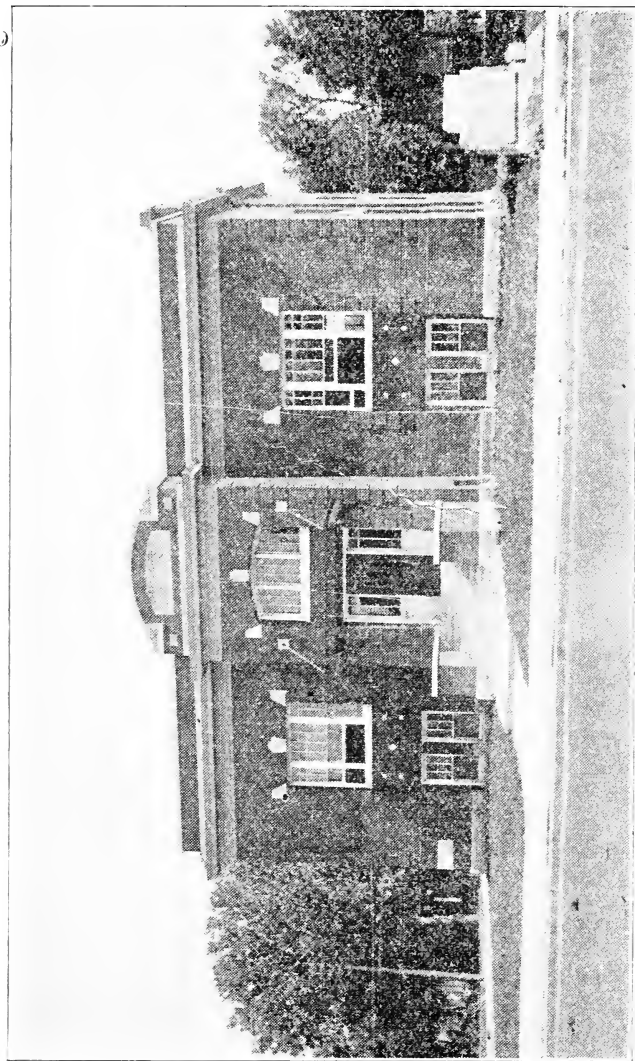
A fifth shall close the drama with the day;

Times noblest effort is the last."

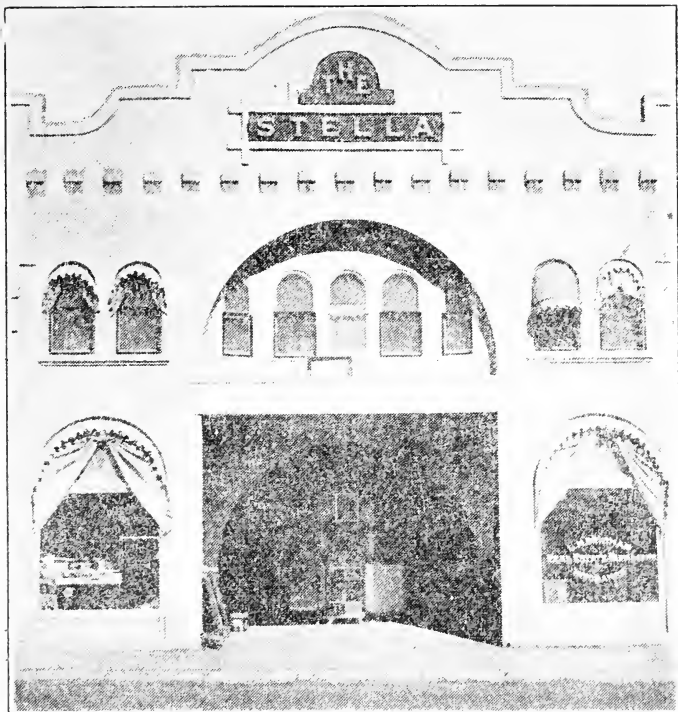
May the last "Act" be one of noblest efforts and permanent results.

To our guests, non-resident old settlers, who have honored this occasion with your presence, we bid you thrice welcome to Council Grove: Long years ago, you sailed out of the Home Port. Some of the frail barks that left this harbor years ago have never returned, but you are anchored safely in the Old Home town once more. The cares of other years have been forgotten in the joy of this reunion. You have found many vacant chairs. In every familiar corner, there lurks some reminder of the loved ones, whose presence meant so much to you in the days gone by. When we pass down the trail for the last time, the beauty of "life's sunset", will be enhanced by the memory of this Home Coming, and some day may the clock of destiny decree, that you will wander back again, to the best town in the best state, of this beloved country of ours, "Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail."

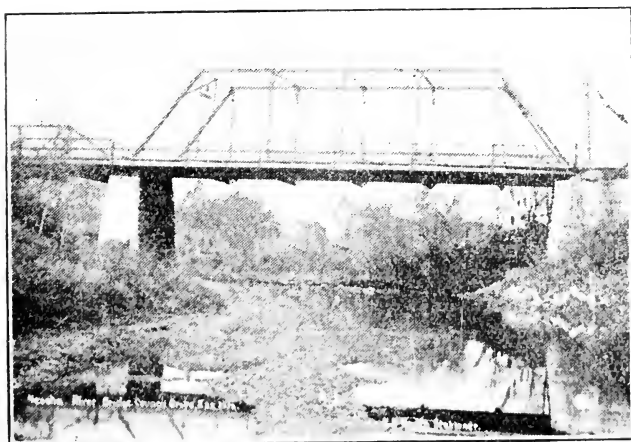
LALLA M. BRIGHAM



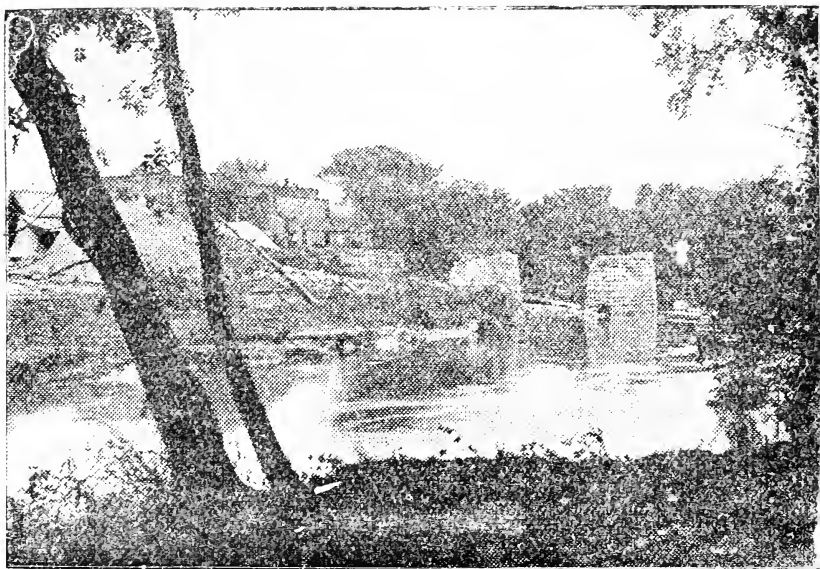
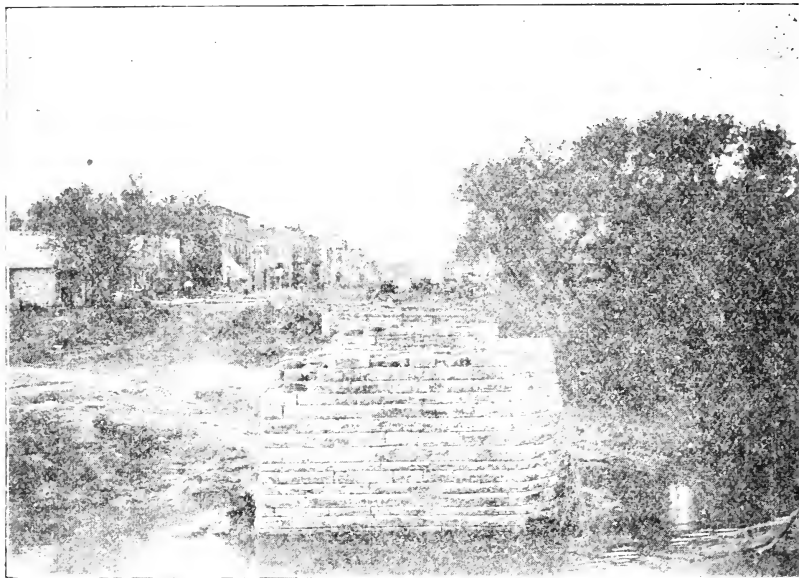
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STELLA THEATRE



IRON BRIDGE BEFORE FLOOD OF 1903



FAMOUS OLD CROSSING—FLOOD OF 1903

## OUR HISTORIC LANDMARKS

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### Padilla Monument

Priest Padilla—1542—First Christian Martyr of America

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### Council Oak

Santa Fe Trail Treaty Signed Here August 10, 1825

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### Fremont Spring

One mile east of Council Grove, where General Fremont camped in 1843. Big John creek was named for one of his guides called Big John. He was a famous scout and the government offered him a pension for his services in exploring new territory. Instead of accepting money he asked for a new suit of clothes each year. This suit was a scout uniform.

## The Kaw Mission

1 8 5 0

The Kaw Mission has stood on the west bank of the Neosho for seventy-one years, and is still well preserved. The four large chimneys, two at each end, and two broad halls through the center, are the same as in 1850 when the Mission was erected. It was built for a school for the Kaw Indians and was used as such for years. The full-blooded Kaws did not take kindly to the educational methods of their white brothers, and only the orphans and dependents were allowed to attend the school. For this reason Mr. Huffaker's time was not fully occupied, so he started a free school for the white children who lived here in 1851. There were only about twelve or fifteen white children living in Council Grove at that time. So the first white school of the Sunflower State had its birth in Council Grove in this historic building. Other teachers followed Mr. Huffaker until 1856, when the East Side one-story building was erected. The other schools in Kansas which antedate the Mission school were mixed schools, both Indians and whites attending. The Old Mission was used for various purposes in the early days—church, Sabbath school, public meetings, council house, and stronghold against attack by the hostile Indians. Many notable people were entertained here. The Huffaker family lived in the Mission for many years after the school closed, and the fact that it has been owned by their youngest daughter, Mrs. Carpenter, for ten years or more, makes their connection all the more interesting. The ancient Kaw Mission building is the embodiment of the epic history of Council Grove, and is one of the historic shrines of the state of Kansas. The history of this state is incomplete without its story, as well as the frequent and worthy mention of T. S. Huffaker, the first teacher of the first white school in Council Grove and the state of Kansas.

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## Hays House

1 8 5 7

On the site of the first log cabin built by Mr. Hays in 1847.



## Custer Elm

General Custer camped under the Custer Elm in 1867

Once an enterprising street commissioner arranged with a wood-chopper to remove this tree for the wood it would furnish. Many old friends deplored its threatened fate, but it was saved by the true friendship of a woman, Mrs. W. A. McCollom, who gave the man ten dollars in lieu of taking the life of this grand sentinel of the forest. Mrs. McCollom then went before the City Council and secured its consent to save it forever by a protecting resolution which the Council passed. Thus, the Custer Elm was saved to be pointed out to present and future generations, while its interesting story is related.

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## Last Chance Store

1857

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## Pioneer Store

1858

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## Gilkey House

(Commercial House)

1859



BELL MONUMENT—1901

## The Old Bell

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This bell was bought for the Plymouth Congregational church of Lawrence, Kansas, in 1863. As there was a crack in the rim, the church refused to accept it. Col. S. N. Wood was in Lawrence at the time, and knowing the need of an alarm bell in Council Grove, had the people here get it. R. M. Wright was active in interesting the citizens in securing the bell. It was brought from Lawrence by an ox-team. The cost of transportation was nine dollars. The bell laid on the side of the hill near the old Congregational church until 1866, when a tower of native lumber was built on the top of Belfry Hill and the bell erected.

The bell answered the purpose of an alarm, school and church bell for nearly forty years.

In 1901 Mrs. Kate Aplington interested the school children in the city schools in restoring the Old Bell that had fallen from its tower and rolled down the hill into Dr. Campbell's yard. The pupils raised the funds and the monument was dedicated to the martyred president, McKinley. The date of September, 19, 1901, is carved on the base of the monument.

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[The following article was read at the annual banquet of the T. P. M. Club in Library Hall, March 27, 1903, by its writer, Lalla Maloy Brigham.]

## THE STORY OF THE BELL

Yes—I will tell my story and in listening to my history, which records the bright and dark side of my career, you will not think I have lived in vain. My birth and infancy are as much a mystery to me as to the hundreds of people who have lived beside me and listened to my chimes. I am told I was cast in an eastern foundry for the Congregational church of Lawrence and was brought there by boat and railway. When I reached my destination it was found that I was like many of the human race, possessed of an imperfection. Upon being inspected by the leaders of that spiritual body I was rejected without even a trial, so I was doomed to years of idleness and disuse. This town was then the far west and did not possess a bell. Some charitable person who had heard of my deplorable condition reported it to the kind people of Council Grove, and through the effort of a dear old man who was my life-long friend, I was purchased and started immediately overland for this town. My spirits were very enlivened by the prospects of enjoying a journey which would end in my occupying a place of my own. Some small boys, now fathers and grandfathers, were playing upon the hill that was destined to be my home, and looking toward the east saw an ox team drawing a huge dark burden coming in over the Santa Fe Trail. They immediately informed the loungers at the corner stone store and I was hailed with a shout of welcome as I proceeded up Main street. This being my first ovation, I was very much elated over it.

The unloading of me on the side of the hill was an event of my life as well as for the small boys. It is said by some that I was intended to warn the people of the Red Men's approach, but I was bought for a holier purpose—to call the people to worship and summon the children to school. Even then I was doomed to disappointment, for it was years before I was privileged to hear my own voice. Funds were at last raised to erect my home and so after years of patient waiting I at last had my heart's desire. How proud I was to hear my rich, full tone peal up and down this beautiful valley and as prosperity should lighten the hearts, all things seemed grander. The river was more sparkling, the grass and trees greener, the sun shone brighter and most beautiful of all was my home, Belfry

Hill. My gratitude was all the deeper by having had so many years of disappointment. From my lofty tower I have viewed this town with an interested eye. I have witnessed the sunshine and the shadows that have entered your homes. I have heard the prattle of happy children, the vows of fond youth and fair maiden, the coming of strangers, the parting of friends.

I have watched the prosperity and adversities, I have rung out the old year and welcomed in the new. I have pealed forth the marriage bells and sadly tolled the passing away of dear friends. I announced the burning of the mill, the brick school house, and the big fire of 1886, and I have warned the town of the saddest disaster this town has ever known, the flood of 1872, when four of our people were swept away. And I have watched the departing of companion landmarks—the foot-bridge, the mill, the school house and many others have passed away and only the Mission building, the little brown school house and the two blacksmith shops and the stone store are left to keep me company while passing into decay. Modern improvements have taken the place of the old ones and time has worked wonders in your town. New buildings and homes have been erected, new railroads have come and with them the people. The old lamp-posts are replaced by electricity, the well beaten paths by sidewalks. The pack mule and covered wagon are things of the past and everywhere I am greeted with the changing from the old to the new, but that which touches me most is the new bells that have supplanted me. First, new church bells and then the school bells, and how my heart ached when I saw the people going to church and the children flocking to school to another call than mine. Then it was that I realized the passing of my days of usefulness. Many older friends had passed away but it did not occur to me that my career had almost reached the end until I heard younger and merrier bells reverberate through the air. At last my strength failed, my tower fell and I rolled down the hill which it had taken so many years to climb, and I realized that my battle was over. All that remained for me was what charitable people were inclined to do.

For years I remained where I had fallen, in the back yard of an old settler's home, and it was with sadness that I looked up on Belfry Hill, which had been my pride and joy for so many

years. There I viewed the many houses that have been built and the improvements made on my old surroundings. Patience to wait and endure will in time earn due reward, so at last some philanthropic people thought I should be honored for long and faithful service, so I was again brought up the hill and through the efforts of the school children and others I was honored as the head of a monument, in which a tablet is dedicated to the late President McKinley. Here I shall remain silent, but content with my lot, simply a reminder of days past that were to me full of pleasure for having been of use to others.

Friends, there is a moral to my story.

To reach the top of the ladder of fame you will have to climb by degrees, as I have this hill. You will meet obstacles at every turn and when the top is reached use your talents to the best advantage. Bear in mind it is easier to fall down than to climb up. Let your lives and deeds reach out to others as the tone of the far-reaching bell. Cherish youth and despise not the decay of old age that is sure to come to all. Prepare for it so that when others step into your places as these bells have in mine, you can listen to them without envy and be justly proud of your past life and hear said of you what I have heard: "There is no bell like the old bell."

Emulate the life of the martyred president whose name appears on this monument, and grasp opportunity before it is forever too late. For as Shakspeare says:

"Who seeks and will not take, when once 'tis offered, shall never find it more."

## M. E. Church, South

This story of the M. E. Church, South, was written before the History of Council Grove. On account of it being the first church in Council Grove and one of the first in Kansas, it forms an important part in Council Grove's history.

Organized 1855 Church Erected 1869 Disbanded 1917

The M. E. Church, South, was the first church organization in Council Grove. Before the organization of this church in 1855 occasional meetings were held here by missionaries in the Mission Building, which was erected in 1850. The Mission Board of the M. E. Church, South, had charge of the Indian school held in the Mission Building. The Government built the Mission and paid part of the funds for its support.

Meetings of the M. E. Church, South, were held for a number of years in a little school house on the east side, on the present site of the Missouri Pacific depot. The organization was perfected in this school house in 1855. While exhorters from other denominations often preached, the M. E. Church, South, formed a class that became permanent in 1855.

Rev. J. H. Pritchett was the first minister and was sent by the Kansas Mission Conference. He taught the first school in the little Brown Jug, built in 1858. Rev. Pritchett was recognized, even then, as a man of great promise. He afterward filled many important charges. He was president of Howard College, Fayette, Mo. He was also president of Pritchett College, at Glasgow, and of Paynesville Institute. For two years he held the chair of Mental and Moral Philosophy and Political Economy at Central College. He retired from the ministry after 57 years of service. Some of the church meetings were held in the hall over the Hays House, now the Arway Hotel.

T. S. Huffaker was prominent in the organization of this church and was a faithful member until his death in 1910. Very few had the record, as Mr. Huffaker did, of attending one church organization fifty-five years. January 4, 1858, is the date of the first record of a Quarterly Conference held in Council Grove. Wm. Bradford was the first Presiding Elder. T. S. Huffaker,

A. J. Collier and H. Rice were the Board of Trustees. J. H. Bradford was licensed to exhort. The records give \$2.50 as the collection. The names of S. H. Munkers, Allen Crowley, A. J. Bird, J. H. Ritchie (for whom Ritchie school house was named) all appear in connection with the early organization of the church. Rev. Craig followed Rev. Pritchett. After Rev. Craig came Rev. Brian. Rev. Meeks was presiding elder during their pastorates. He was famous for his frontier work among the Indians.

The first Sabbath school of the M. E. church, South, in Council Grove was organized in 1858. There was also a Sabbath school called Elm Creek Sabbath School.

The report of Council Grove Sabbath School for July 17, 1858, says there were 50 pupils, 7 teachers, 250 volumes in the library of the two schools, and 40 Sunday School Visitors were taken.

Occasional meetings were held by the church in the scattered homes throughout the county. Classes were formed later at Ritchie, Morris and Watts school houses, and their early history is closely allied with that of the Council Grove church.

In 1859 Rev. Joab Spencer, who for many years was the leading spirit of the Council Grove church and circuit, came to live in Council Grove. On account of the Civil War he was prevented from accomplishing very much real church work, but as presiding elder he helped hold the organization together, and at the end of the war it was one of the very few churches left. Rev. Spencer had been interpreter for the Shawnee Indians, so he did some profitable work among the Indians here. Mr. Spencer experienced many thrilling incidents during the war. He was often accused of being a "Secesh" and while his efforts were sometimes in vain, he always tried to impress upon the people "their duty of absolute loyalty to the state in which they lived." Following the war, when he was in and out of Council Grove, he put forth every effort toward building a new church. This was uphill work on account of the bitterness engendered during the civil strife. Rev. Joab Spencer was one of the noble band of M. E., South, ministers who devoted their energy toward trying to overcome this bitterness caused by the existing feeling between the North and the South. The membership of this church in Council Grove overcame a great deal

of this feeling. They kept clear of political issues and preached the true gospel. Thus the seed planted during civil strife bore fruit and the church began to revive. Council Grove began planning for a new church, which was begun in 1868 and completed in 1869. It was dedicated in July, 1869, by Dr. McAmally, who edited the St. Louis Christian Advocate, an M. E., South, paper. The lot was deeded to the church by T. S. Huffaker. The church cost between five and six thousand dollars. It was built of red brick and had green shutters at one time, also frosted windows. It was the first church building in Council Grove, as well as in the county, and was the pride of the town. It was like many of the little churches in the South, but to Council Grove, with its log cabins and crude buildings, it was something more than a structure of brick and wood. This church added prestige to the community and with its power for good, came better days for Council Grove.

The pastor of the church when it was dedicated was Rev. E. G. Frazier. He remained here two years. Mr. Frazier was followed by J. O. Forseman, who served as pastor in the M. E. church, South, three times. The first parsonage was built the first year Mr. Forseman was stationed here. It was sold during Mr. Comer's first pastorate and is now occupied by Mr. Jo Jones. Mr. Forseman was ably assisted by his wife, Mrs. Forseman. These were trying times in Kansas, when drought or grasshoppers visited it almost every year and the ministers and their wives had to exercise their faith to the utmost to keep their members from being discouraged. In this line Mrs. Forseman was proficient and the old settlers can recall many instances where she gave both material and spiritual guidance. Later Mr. Forseman went into the M. E. church and was pastor here two years. He died in 1916.

After Mr. Forseman there were eighteen pastors who served the church in the following order: D. O. Howells, D. R. Rader, W. A. Hanna, N. G. Faubian, who have all passed to their reward; C. A. Sherman, who lives in Siloam Springs, a retired member of the Missouri Conference; H. L. Anderson, retired a number of years ago; W. H. Comer, retired and living in Council Grove; H. J. Brown, retired and living in Washington, D. C., T. C. Downs, dead; J. F. Patterson, preaching somewhere in Kansas in the M. E. church; F. A. White, now a member of the

West Texas Conference; J. W. Payne, who served the Council Grove church eight years. He was highly respected in Council Grove and was a power for good in the community as well as in the church. He died in 1918. J. H. Cleaves, stationed at Slater, Mo.; T. C. Pickett, now stationed at Archon, Mo., A. R. Williamson, united with M. E. church; G. H. Haynes, now in California, Mo.; J. R. Castell, retired and living in St. Joseph, Mo.; J. M. Blaine, located in Missouri. Rev. Blaine was the last minister in charge when the church closed in 1917.

Of the Presiding Elders who were not pastors of the church. J. M. Gross is now stationed at Miami, Florida; Rev. H. D. Hogan, who came here as presiding elder in 1873, is now retired and living in Rosedale, Kansas.

The Western Conference in the South church was formed in 1870 and included Kansas. The 2nd, 6th, 10th, 15th, 18th, 23rd, 28th and 32nd sessions of this conference were held in the Council Grove church. The date of the last one was September, 1901. The last Conference held in this district was in 1905. Bishops Marvin, Parker, Galloway, Hendrix, Fitzgerald and McIntire presided over these Conferences.

Rev. W. B. Maxey, a South Methodist minister from Kentucky, resided near Council Grove and often preached in the country churches and sometimes assisted in Council Grove. Rev. J. R. Bennett, from Virginia, lived on a farm west of town and preached occasionally in the country churches and in town. There is a singular coincidence regarding these two ministers. They came to Council Grove near the same time. Both of them had passed the age of active work. They were both 75 years old and each of them had been in the ministry 53 years and both died on the same day, within two hours of each other, in November, 1883. Their bodies were taken to the little brick church at the same hour for funeral services, conducted by Rev. W. H. Comer. They were buried with Masonic rights in Greenwood Cemetery.

Rev. W. H. Comer came as pastor to this church in 1882, and years later came again as Presiding Elder for this circuit. His coming marked a new era in the church and the interest awakened through his efforts was lasting. He married the daughter of B. R. Scott, and with her helpful companionship the

ideals and purposes of his life work have been rewarded with success. His daughter has also added her time and talent to her father's work, and the Comer family fill an important niche in the history of the church. It was always characteristic of Mr. Comer to impress his hearers with his earnestness and sincerity of purpose. As a pastor, he was loved and respected. It is a great pleasure to his former congregation to have him living in Council Grove again.

There was always a good, lively Sabbath school. Mr. B. R. Scott was its leading spirit. There were Christmas trees and Santa Claus was always generous. D. C. Webb and his wife and two daughters gave several years' service to the church and Sunday school. Mr. Webb was Sunday school superintendent. Later they went into the M. E. church.

In 1874, when Rev. D. L. Raßer was pastor, there was a revival which resulted in 138 conversions to the church. Several of them are living in Council Grove at present. All through the sixty-two years of this church's existence the ladies, whose faithful attention to the material and spiritual welfare of the church form many chapters in its history. Their festivals and chicken dinners were the very best. There were quiltings and carpet-sewings. They were hospitable and no minister or presiding elder ever lacked for entertainment. Even during the lean years there was always a welcome.\* The first organ was a Mason & Hamlin. There were others more modern that followed. No music could sound sweeter than that of the first organ accompanying the good old songs, "When I Can Read My Title Clear," "Arise, My Soul, Arise," "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?" So many, many of the voices who sang these songs are silent now, but the hymns are still with us. The choir was noted for its faithfulness. Mr. Scott, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Comer, E. D. Scott, Mr. Martz, Miss Lida Rose, Mr. Will Welch were members of the choir many years.

In the early days there were no anthems or solos. Everybody sang. If their pitch wasn't always true no one noticed it. They needed no special attractions to fill the church. The church was filled to overflowing and men were standing outside looking in at the windows. No automobiles passed by to detract from the services. Those who came from a distance had to

sacrifice time, but no one ever complained of being too busy to attend church. How pleasing it would be to give a glowing tribute to each person who helped make this church. As that is impossible, we can only draw a picture of the dim trail from 1855 to 1869 and over the rough roads to the paved streets of 1921. It was a long road to travel. There are many silent forms in the picture who consecrated their lives to the service of the Master. Then as the procession nears the end and the families of B. R. Scott, A. G. Campbell, F. Carpenter, H. Blim, George Phillips, Agnes Strieby, B. K. Stevenson, P. S. Martz, George and Frank Bolton, Mrs. Pollard, Mrs. Nixon and Mrs. Shamleffer were among those who were faithful to the last. Every fleeting memory brings something to mind that recalls the little brick church.

There is a great deal of sentiment connected with the memory of this church that blazed the trail for a better day in Council Grove and surrounding country. It lived through those trying days of civil strife and reconstruction. Among its adherents were representatives from both sides of the leading questions of the day, and let it be to their lasting credit, they placed the sanctity of the church before political issues. Soldiers from the North and the South sat side by side. They labored together for one purpose.

In building the church in 1869 there was such a lot of love and hard labor put into its construction that it was heart-rending to see it fall beneath the ruthless hand of the destroyer. Each brick and timber seemed to protest. It stood so long and for such a good purpose. Memories of the good old days of its usefulness recall many of the pastors, the sessions of General Conferences, which were always events of importance. The walls, could they have spoken, would have told volumes. Then, the altar rail! It seemed a sacrilege that that too had to go! If it had the power to tell the story of those fifty years how long and varied the tale would be! The heart aches—the anguish of sin—the joy of forgiveness—the acceptance of God's mercy—the baptisms—the marriages—the messages of peace and good will—and the silent forms to whom the last earthly ministrations were performed beside this altar—are all faint recollections now. Like all things that are past, we can picture

it only in the memory. These faithful church members and the long line of ministers were the standard bearers of better days. Of these ministers, whose sacrifices and loyalty to the Great Cause led so many to see the light, very few remain. Their tenacity of purpose made possible the condition the modern church of today enjoys. The rays from their lighted candles penetrated far into the future. The members, often discouraged worshiped at the Shrine of Faith, and when it was thought best to disband, that same faith led them to worship in other churches.

Rev. Joab Spencer, at the building of the church in 1869, had a vision of the future when the Mason and Dixon line would vanish and we would know no North and South in Council Grove. Through his efforts the Trustees and members decreed that the South Church property should always be used for church purposes. As the majority of its members have joined the M. E. church, it was given to that church and their manse erected upon it. It was dedicated October 31, 1919. At that dedication many former members of the church stood in the receiving line, and among them were Mrs. Scott and her daughter, Mrs. Comer, who had come to Council Grove just fifty years ago that fall, the year the brick church was dedicated.

So after fifty years of service as a church, the lots were dedicated as a home for the M. E. minister. The M. E., South. organization had held together for sixty-two years.

Through the efforts of Mrs. A. G. Campbell (who with her husband and family were loyal South Methodists), a memorial tablet was placed in the manse over the spot where the church once stood. This tablet bears the dates 1869—1919. It was a beautiful thought that Bro. Comer, surrounded by a group of former South Methodist members, was chosen to dedicate this memorial. Rev. Kelly assisted him. At the same time Rev. Comer christened the little son of Captain and Mrs. Rucker. Lingerings thoughts of the past brought many tears to the eyes of the worshipers of the little brick church. Not tears of regret, but of gratefulness for the blessed memory of eternal truths received in the little church that is no more and that their broadened vision made it possible for them to unite with another church in the spirit the Master would wish them to.

This simple service, a last act in cementing the two churches, seemed like a benediction. Here we leave the memories of the past, recalling the little brick church, and those of you who for so many years answered the call of its bell and knelt in communion at the sacred altar of the South Methodist church may know you were a part of the world's redemption.

LALLA M. BRIGHAM.

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## The Passing of the Little Brown Jug

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[The following was written by Mrs. Brigham and read at a meeting of the T. P. M. Club May 3, 1919.]

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Not a molasses jug, nor a vinegar jug. Neither is it the much talked of whiskey jug, which we trust passed out forever July 1, but this story deals with the little brown school house, commonly known as the Little Brown Jug. Early settlers tell us this name was given it during the long period it remained unpainted and its weather-beaten sides became brown. To perpetuate its name it has been painted brown several times. It is one of the oldest school houses in the state excepting, of course,

the Indian building of stone. In this part of the state it is the oldest. For over half a century it was used as a school building for all children, but for many years it has been the school for colored children. It was given the name Lincoln school, in honor of the man who did so much to emancipate the colored race. The little school house was built of sturdy native timber and many buildings in Council Grove have come and gone since it was built in 1858. There was one other school house at that time on the east side, which stood near the present site of the Missouri Pacific depot. The first organization of the M. E. church, South, in 1855, was in the East Side school house, which pastor of the M. E. church, South, and he was also the first teacher in the Brown Jug. W. H. White, Sr., was a pupil of Rev. Pritchett the first year school was held in the Brown Jug. He is the only resident of Council Grove who attended the Brown Jug in 1858.

The Brown Jug was school district No. 2 and many exciting wrangles occurred between the two districts. Previous to the building of this school house the white children attended the Mission school, where in 1849 T. S. Huffaker taught the Indians. He was the father of Mrs. Anna Carpenter and Mrs. Agnes Wismeyer, and Mrs. Carpenter now owns and resides in the Mission.

The Brown Jug was built before Council Grove was platted. Among the early teachers following Rev. Pritchett were Rev. Joab Spencer, H. D. Preston, Nellie Plumb, Miss Mary Jane Watson, of Emporia, now dead, Miss Mary Ann Hatten, mother of William Allen White, Mrs. Porter of Topeka, and Miss Goddard. They were followed by a number of teachers who had been pupils in this little school house. In 1862 the First Presbyterian church was organized in this building, followed by the Congregational church. In 1860, Mr. R. M. Wright began the union Sunday school, which lasted until the building of the Congregational church. He was a faithful attendant of this Sabbath school and church for over forty years. In recalling the history of the Little Brown Jug it is like bringing to mind the memory of a departed friend. Long before my time this school house was more than a school building—it was an institution in this town. The Lyceum, singing school, ice cream

socials and exhibitions, where some of the grandmothers of today sang the old, old songs, and the grandfathers (who, as boys, spoke "The Boy Stood on the Burning Deck" and "Casablanca") were held in this school house. Many political wrangles and debates resounded within its walls and it was the meeting place for all festivities.

Of its early history I know very little—only what I have been told, but tradition dear to the hearts of many people in Council Grove and Morris county bring to my mind many incidents of the 50's, 60's and 70's, and such memories always include one or more who reside here now. Elwood Sharp and Kit Stenger were prominent for the pranks they played on new boys and new teachers. It wasn't hazing them—just plain mischief. Jim Stenger was a model boy and noted for not telling tales on the others. Little did Mrs. Sarah White think she was receiving her training to be future president of the T. P. M. Club, or Mrs. Fleming to be a worthy member of the same Club, or Mrs. Fanny Wright to be a teacher in the same school. Nor did Mrs. Mamie Miller dream that sometime she would honorably discharge so many public duties. After attending the Brown Jug many years, at 16 she taught her first school there. Did our smiling, fun-loving Bettie Painter (whose old trunk in the attic is no doubt filled with prizes for perfect deportment) dream that in 1919 she would still be our Jolly Bettie? The lives of all these girls have shown us they adhered strictly to the Golden Rule. They have spent many happy hours recalling their old pastimes, and one incident of especial interest was their daily visit to the Hermit, whose cave was in a ledge of rocks on the east side of the hill. My earliest recollections take me back to 1874, and I fain would call "Turn Backward, Turn Backward, O Time, in Your Flight, and Make Me a Child Again, Just for Tonight." I seem to see the weather-beaten walls of the little school house on the western slope of Belfry Hill. From its eastern windows I see the sun rising over the town. From the south the breezes are wafted from the hills. Toward the setting sun the green sward reaches to the City of Our Dead; north of it was prairie and more prairie. I see boys in homespun and high-top boots, jolly, healthy boys, brimming over with fun. Girls in checkered aprons, with hair held back with roach combs and long braids tied with a string

They were smiling, happy little girls, whose eyes sparkled mischief, and what mattered it if when exhibition day came and we all dressed up, if we did wear pink flowered dresses, yellow hair ribbons and copper-toed shoes? We hadn't learned to spell style and we cared little for harmony of colors.

I seem to see the thumb-marked speller, the initial-carved desk, the old slate so noisy but dependable. On the slope of the hill and among the ledges on the crest of this same hill, my memory recalls the little play-houses, rooms divided by stones and shells. The make-believe existed then as well as now, and we received our earliest lessons in home-making at that time. I remember so well the first spring flowers we sought so eagerly for our beloved teachers. Pupils loved and respected their teachers. Strikes and "walk outs" were unknown in the Little Brown Jug. As "lickin' and larnin" were a part of the program, if we complained at home we got it twice. Belfry Hill had no modern improvements then and the pupils all felt it belonged to the Brown Jug. So we roamed over it in summer and coasted down its sides in the winter. Life was happy and uneventful. Fourth of July, Christmas, with an occasional circus parade, barbecue, school picnic, or fire broke the monotony. Once an Indian stepped into the open doorway and struck terror to our hearts, but we were not nearly so frightened as we would have been had a Jones Six or a flivver driven past the little school house door. It seems only yesterday that we crowned the fair-haired May Queen, only yesterday that the walls resounded with "Clap 'em in and clap 'em out," and the air was filled with shouts of laughter and song as we played "King William Was King James' Son," black man and dare base. We had never heard of athletics, and I doubt if Webster had. I know we modest little girls would have fainted at the sight of basketball bloomers. We had our problems, too, and conjugation of verbs, long division and square root wrecked many hours for me. We had no written examinations as our slates were too small to hold all we knew and paper was scarce. I don't recall ever seeing a paper wad on the ceiling of the Little Brown Jug, but a sponge for the slate held water a long time and was the source of much amusement. Our oral examinations took place every spring with the school board and parents present. One year I was to bound Asia and our teacher, Mrs. Mamie

Miller, had us lined up every day for three weeks so we could not fail. I arrived at the sea of Kamchatka O. K. and then jumped to the Gulf of Mexico. My teacher's eyes said, "I knew you would," but she immediately covered my disgrace by calling upon the next. We once invaded the home of this same faithful teacher just about supper time. We took this occasion to present her with a couple of red glass vases and a chromo. There was a boiled ham, fresh bread, preserves and jam galore. I have often thought of that ham since Hoover came on the stage, and even then she paid a big price for those vases before we were all fed. I must not forget the water pail and the "passing of the water." We might have missed our spelling lessons or failed to do our sums, but we never failed to pass the water. The old tin dipper traveled from mouth to mouth, and Dr. Crumbine, had he been here, could have collected enough germs from that old tin dipper alone to demolish the Hun army. This proves ignorance is bliss, for we never had heard of germs. We were a husky set of children at any rate. While we sometimes broke out with measles or swelled up with mumps, with sassafras tea in the spring and a red yarn string with asafetida attached to it around our necks in winter prevented croup and other diseases. There are many touching tales I could recall during the years I attended school in the Brown Jug and later, when I taught there. Many of the little urchins whom I directed during the periods they were learning the three R's are living in our city and it has always been a pleasure to me to watch their progress with the times. Of my own school mates there are very few. Mrs. Anna Carpenter, the partner of my childhood joys and sorrows, and who was always active in helping me collect tadpoles and grub worms to put down Charlie Dillon's and Henry Strieby's necks, still lives here, and Mrs. Rose Titus, who was always our play mother, Mrs. Jennie Welch, Mrs. Lettie Reese, Charlie Dillon and a few others are left. Where have they wandered—all those boys and girls? The Mamies, the Annas, the Betties, the Aggies, the Willies, the Jimmies, the Alberts and the Henrys? Occasionally one of them returns to the old home town to renew old associations. The hundreds and hundreds who have passed over the door step of the Little Brown Jug would make a long procession. Some have traveled and are in distant lands, some have

attained wealth, some honor and position, others have lingered near the little school house and passed their lives among the old associations. Some have passed through the Valley of Sorrow and others lie beneath the sod in distant lands. Many are in Greenwood cemetery and as we pass among the green mounds we read the names of many of our old school mates of the Little Brown Jug. This school house having lived its time, has witnessed remarkable changes in our midst. It was a long, long trail from the ox-team to the automobile and airplane. The road was not hard-surfaced, the ruts were many and the turns sharp. The Little Brown Jug has witnessed the coming of the railroad and has seen the spring wagon and carriage and other vehicles all give way to the automobile. The state of Kansas has blossomed as a rose. She has abolished the saloon, adopted woman suffrage, her valleys are fruitful and hills are covered with cattle. Prosperity abounds. The Brown Jug has seen the coming of the Library, the modern school house, sewer system, waterworks, electric lights and paved streets to our little city. Within a block the Santa Fe Trail passes where half a century ago caravans could be seen wending their way westward. Today this same trail hums with automobiles. It is a time-honored custom that the old gives way to the new, but sentiment dies hard when old associations are passing out. It makes us ponder over the rapid strides we are making toward progress, and we pause to question the result of our advancement. Do we walk the paved streets as contentedly as when we picked our way so carefully over the stepping stones of the 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's? Do we see Life's great lessons as clearly under the arc light as we did beside the street lamp?

Do we with our modern school houses impress the fundamental truths upon our children and cultivate the practical side of life as we did in the Little Brown Jug? If so, life's greatest Teacher will say, "Well done."

So, Little Brown Jug, your mission is ended. You have ceased to be a school house, but the memory of you will linger with us until the end of time. For sixty-one years you did your part toward making the state and the town, and assuring the safety of the nation. You have made a good fight, it is ended, and with a tear of regret and many loving memories, we bid you a fond farewell.

## The Hermit Priest

### "Matteo Boccalini," or Father Francesco

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Mr. Maloy's story of the "Hermit Priest" of Council Grove was written some time in the 80's, and was published in the Council Grove Republican February 7, 1890. In 1898 it was published in Col. Henry Inman's "Tales of the Trail," with a slightly different introductory and with more in detail about the Hermit's peculiar life and tragic death in the mountains of New Mexico, but with no credit to Mr. Maloy as the author of the main part of the tale.

Soon after this Inman publication, Mr. Maloy gave me his original manuscript to preserve as a literary relic. In doing so, he said: "I loaned this manuscript to Colonel Inman and he has embraced the entire story, with a slightly different beginning and ending, in his book, "Tales of the Trail," but says nothing about using my story." He then related to me how he happened to write it and naturally felt a little grieved that its authorship had been assumed by another.

Mr. Maloy obtained his information regarding this most unique character from early settlers, and especially from Capt. Jacob Stenger, a well known citizen, who became on friendly terms with the Hermit, as he was able to converse with him in the Spanish language; for although Father Francesco was an Italian, he was versed in all of the Latin languages.

I am glad to be able to turn this original manuscript, which I have preserved for over twenty years, to the Maloy family, for the purpose of having it preserved as a rare historic document and also as a proof of the authorship of that most romantic story of historic Council Grove and the Old Santa Fe Trail—"Matteo Boccalini," or "Father Francesco, the Hermit Priest."

GEO. P. MOREHOUSE.

Topeka, Kansas, May 12, 1921.

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By JOHN MALOY

About the time of the first open hostilities that led to our late Civil War, when men were hurrying hither and thither and preparing for the great events that were soon to transpire and make or mar the destiny of this republic, a strangely mysterious character made his advent into Council Grove, then the extreme frontier, rendezvous and outfitting post for the freighters and voyageurs to Mexico and the western mountains. He attracted much attention, for he was in our frontier town

as mysterious a personage as the "man in the iron mask" or the awkward Kaspar Hauser, whose appearance at the gates of Nuremberg startled the inhabitants of that staid and quiet town, hoary with the conservatism of centuries. He talked little, and it was no easy matter to engage him in conversation, so profoundly did he believe in some "impending danger." Enough was gathered, however, to enable us to furnish an outline of his history, extracted at odd intervals of communicativeness. Matteo Boccalini, at the time of which we are writing, was about 55 years of age, and was a native of Capri, the charming and romantic island of Italy, situated in the Mediterranean Sea, at the entrance of the Bay of Naples, about twenty miles south of the city of Naples. His early life was spent there, and there in the city of Capri, the seat of a bishopric, he received his early education, devoted himself to the church and made his first commencement in the theological studies that were at last to be the cause of his sorrows, his wanderings and his death. The island of his birth was historic as well as romantic and beautiful, for it was there that the Roman emperor, Tiberius, spent the last ten years of his life, and it was there that he reared twelve palaces, the ruins of which, it is said, are still visible. The island of Capri is remarkable for a cavern called the "Grotto of the Nymphs" or the "Blue Grotto," in which it is possible the subject of our sketch first learned to love the companionship of solitude and the home of the cave. At the age of eighteen Matteo Boccalini left his native isle and the patronage of his good bishop and perfected his education under the shadows of St. Peter's dome, and took holy orders at the age of twenty-one, and then began with him the life of stormy passion and sorrowful pilgrimage that eventually led to a tragic death in the far off Occident. He was called "Father Francesco" and was, although so young, noted for his eloquent preaching, subtle philosophy, and boldness and bravery of his political utterances. Nevertheless, the Pope named him as one of his secretaries, but the college of the propagandists denounced him, and he was not confirmed, but was placed under interrogation and discipline. He denounced them as inquisitors and Jesuits and incurred their eternal enmity. The discipline over, he was assigned a place in the purlieus of the "Eternal

City" and thenceforth was watched as only the disciples of Ignatius Loyola can watch.

In time, his sunny nature and warm passions caused his disgrace. He became charmed with a fair devotee, one of his charge, furnished no doubt by his enemies for the occasion, and he fell in a most earthly and fleshly way. Charged, prosecuted, persecuted and denounced, he was despoiled of his sacerdotal functions and he fled—became a wanderer upon the face of the earth—and supped with sorrow and despair throughout all the remainder of his earthly career. He for a short time campaigned with the heroic Garibaldi, but his utterances for liberty of thought, action, and theory of divine and human government soon brought again upon his track the enemies who had insured his downfall, and with tears and sighs he turned his steps and began his journeying to this continent. No more was he to behold the place of his birth or see the chalky outlines of fair, beautiful Capri, which begems the blue Mediterranean and the phosphorescent Bay of Naples. The sky, sunshine and vintage of dear old Italy was nevermore to warm his impulsive nature or stir into life the numbness of his heart. The years went by and having passed from place to place, and visited one Indian tribe and another, in the hope of finding some tribe or people near unto Nature's heart; some people that might receive him in the simplicity of his severe and pious penance; he came a few weeks prior to the time of the opening of this sketch, among the Kaw or Kansas, Indians whose reservation was in the Neosho Valley a few miles below Council Grove. The Kaws were very superstitious and suspicious and not remarkable for a reverence for any sort of religion, did not take kindly to the solitary wanderer. His pious zeal, abstinence and self-control made them fear to approach him, for they did not understand that

"When holy and devout religious men  
Are at their beads, 'tis hard to draw them thence,  
So sweet is zealous contemplation."

They said he was "bad medicine," and so he was not more at home in the tepees of the Kaws than he would have been in the Vatican. He came to Council Grove as the tramp has since come, but not to beg or demand bread at our doors, or to

tell off his beads in the presence of the vulgar curious, but to go upon the hillside and into a cave, where for five months he lived accessible to but few, with whom, when he felt the quickened glow of a heart that recognizes the "fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," he would talk in tenderest strains of everything that was good and true and beautiful. He had, of earthly possessions, so little that he could have almost vied with the lowly Nazarene in the splendor of his poverty.\* Of crucifixes, religious mementos and other trinkets sweetly suggestive of better and happier days, he had a few. His solace was in a half-dozen small volumes, between the lids of which none peered but himself. He was regular at his devotions, for notwithstanding he had sinned, he was contritely striving to outlive its memory and undo the injury it had done his Master's cause. He possessed one other article of personal property, the only circumstance that tinges his stay among us with anything bordering on the romantic. It was a rude mandolin and on evenings he would sweep the strings with fingers slight and deft and soulfully tender as a maiden whose heart had just been touched by its first breath of love. To those who were fortunate enough to hear—and they were few—his vesper hymns were solemn as the holy hush of a young girl's prayer and his Neapolitan songs and gondola airs were sweet as the chant of the angels he invoked. There he lived—

"The moss his bed, the cave his humble cell;

His food the fruits, his drink the crystal well"—

he, the once gay and gallant Matteo Boccalini, the "Father Francesco," the hermit priest of the Santa Fe Trail. He was loyal to the Catholic church, but hated and feared the Jesuits whom he believed had plotted to destroy him. No one here spoke a language he did not understand. Once when a stabbed and dying Mexican wanted a service for the repose of his soul, he hastened to his side and administered the last sacrament in the dying man's own tongue. One day he saw a stranger whom he took to be a Jesuit emissary, and said he could not tarry longer; that he would go to the mountains of Mexico, seek another cave, rear a cross and live in solitude. He thought much of solitude and argued that it was the "muse of enthusiasm," and that "enthusiasm was the parent of genius;" that in all ages solitude had been called for or flown to.

One bright spring morning, when the breeze was billowing the grass upon the virgin prairies, he left his cave, as he had years before left his cloister, and convoyed by a passing train, he set out for New Mexico. We learn he was last seen at Santa Fe, the city of "Holy Faith," where his stay was short. From there to the mountains and he was lost sight of, and it was but a couple of years till the news came that a Hermit Priest had been living in a mountain cave over which a rudely shaped wooden cross was standing, and that soon after he was found dead, and that a poisoned dagger in the hands of a Jesuit assassin had at last done its work—that at last he had met the fate which had been his life-time fear.

The hermit had the eye of an artist, a head that was shapely with a classic mold, and notwithstanding his age, his hair was as black and lustrous as the raven's wing. His form betokened that in his earlier days he had been a sinewy athlete.

For years after his departure the "hermit cave" was an object of much interest. Upon the time-honored rocks were scratched his name, a cross, "Jesu Maria" and "Capri," all dear to the hermit's life.

Thus ends the story of this solitary man—a man of sorrows and griefs, but with as much repentance and as many penances as sins—one of those ethereal spirits who might become physically dirty, but never spiritually unclean.

# Treaty with the Great and Little Osage Indians Regarding the Santa Fe Trail.

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Signed August 10, 1825

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Whereas, the Congress of the United States of America being anxious to promote a direct and commercial and friendly intercourse between the citizens of the United States and those of the Mexican Republic, and to afford protection to the same, did at their last session, pass an act, which was approved the third of March, 1825, "To authorize the President of the United States to cause a road to be marked out from the western frontier of Missouri to the confines of New Mexico," and which authorizes the President of the United States to appoint three commissioners to carry said act of Congress into effect, and enjoins on the commissioners, so to be appointed, that they first obtain consent of the intervening tribes of Indians, by treaty, to the marking of said road, and to the unmolested use thereof to the citizens of the United States and of the Mexican Republic, and Benjamin H. Reeves, Geo. C. Sibley and Thomas Mather, being duly appointed Commissioners as aforesaid, and being duly and fully authorized, have this day met the chiefs and head men of the Great and Little Osage tribes of Indians, who being all duly authorized to meet and negotiate with the commissioners upon the premises, and being specially met for that purpose, by invitation of said commissioners, at a place called Council Grove, on the Nee-o-zho River, one hundred and sixty miles southwest from Fort Osage, have, after due deliberation and consultation, agreed to the following treaty, which is to be considered binding on said Osage Indians, from and after this day:

Art. 1. The chiefs and head men of the Great and Little Osage nation and tribes of Indians, for themselves and their nations, do consent and agree that the Commissioners of the United States shall, and may survey and mark out a road, in such manner as they may think proper, through any territory

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL.

owned or claimed by said Great and Little Osage tribes or nations of Indians.

Art. 2. The chiefs and head men aforesaid, do further agree that the road authorized in Article 1 shall, when marked, be forever free for the use of the citizens of the United States and of the Mexican Republic, who shall at all times pass and repass thereon, without any hindrance or molestation on the part of the said Osage Indians.

Art. 3. The chiefs and head men, as aforesaid, in consideration of the friendly relations existing between them and the United States, do further promise, for themselves and their people, that they will, on all fit occasions, render such friendly aid and assistance as may be in their power, to any of the citizens of the United States or of the Mexican Republic, as they may at any time happen to meet or fall in with on the road aforesaid.

Art. 4. The chiefs and head men, as aforesaid, do further consent and agree that the road aforesaid shall be considered as extending to a reasonable distance on either side, so that travelers thereon may, at any time, leave the marked track, for the purpose of finding subsistence and proper camping places.

Art. 5. In consideration of the privileges granted by the chiefs of the Osage Indians in the three preceding articles, the said commissioners on the part of the United States have agreed to pay them, the chiefs, aforesaid, for themselves and their people, the sum of five hundred dollars; which sum is to be paid them as soon as may be, in money or merchandise, at their option at such place as they may desire.

Art. 6. And the said chiefs and head men, as aforesaid, acknowledge to have received from the commissioners aforesaid, at and before the signing of this treaty, articles of merchandise to the value of three hundred dollars, which sum of three hundred dollars and the payment stipulated to be made to the said Osage Indians in Article 5 shall be considered and are to be considered by said chiefs as full and complete compensation for every privilege herein granted by said chiefs.

In testimony whereof, the said Benjamin H. Reeves, George C. Sibley and Thomas Mather, Commissioners as aforesaid,

## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

and the chiefs and head men of the Great and Little tribes or nations of Indians have hereunto set their hands and seals at the Council Grove on the Nee-o-zho River aforesaid, this tenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five.

BENJAMIN H. REEVES,

GEO. C. SIBLEY,

THOMAS MATHER,

U. S. Commissioners.

Pa-hu-ska (White Hair), head chief of the Great Osages, his X mark.

Ca-he-ga-wa-to-noga (Foolish Chief), head of the Little Osages, his X mark.

Shin-ga-wassa (Handsome Bird), Chief of the Great Osages, his X mark.

Ta-ha-mo-nee (Swift Walker), Chief of the Little Osages, his X mark.

Ca-he-ga-wash-in-nee-she (Bad Chief), of Great Osages, his X mark.

Wee-ho-je-ne-fare (Without Ears), Chief of Little Osages, his X mark.

Ca-he-ga-shin-ga (Little Chief), Chief of Great Osages, his X mark.

Waw-bur-cou. Warrior Little Osages, his X mark.

May-sho-hun-ga, Warrior Great Osages, his X mark.

Way-lo-gah (Owl), Warrior Little Osages, his X mark.

May-she-te-mo-nee, Warrior Great Osages, his X mark.

Che-ha-kaw, Warrior Little Osages, his X mark.

Ne-ha-wash-he-tun-ga, Warrior Great Osages, his X mark.

Ho-no-pos-see, Warrior Little Osages, his X mark.

Waw-kun-chee, Warrior Little Osages, his X mark.

Paw-ne-ne-push-re, Warrior Little Osages, his X mark.

Archibald Gamble, Secretary.

Jos. C. Brown, Surveyor.

W. S. Willindley, Interpreter.

### Witnesses—

Stephen Cooper,  
Samuel Givens,  
Richard Brannin,  
Garrison Patrick,  
Daniel J. Bahan,  
I. R. Walker,  
Singleton Vaughan,

Bradford Barbis,  
John E. Walker,  
Joseph Davis,  
George West,  
Thomas Adams,  
James Brotherton,  
Benjamin Jones.

## Hon. John Maloy

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June 13, 1921.

We, the undersigned old settlers, request that the article written by George P. Morehouse relating to John Maloy be incorporated in "The Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail."

R. M. ARMSTRONG,  
W. F. SHAMLEFFER,  
W. H. WHITE.

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For forty-two years John Maloy was as well known as any citizen of Morris county. As a public man, he probably had a larger personal acquaintance and following than anyone who ever lived in Council Grove or Morris county. This is shown by the numerous times he was elected to office in a county usually Republican—while he was always a consistent Democrat.

Mr. Maloy served as county attorney for a longer period than any man in Kansas; mayor of Council Grove for eight years; United States commissioner for twelve years; numerous terms on the Board of Education; and at the time of his death was city attorney of Council Grove and the Morris county representative in the Kansas Legislature. All of these positions he filled with ability and he was generally popular with his constituents and colleagues—and this regardless of party.

It was often remarked that had he been a member of the dominant party in Kansas instead of a Democrat, he doubtless would have been called to some of the highest positions in the state.

In his estimate of men, riches or poverty, high or low station, had little effect. If a man was poor, in trouble, down and out and with few friends, Mr. Maloy would help him if possible; and during his long life as a lawyer, he rendered much legal service to such without thought of remuneration. He despised all sham and shallow pretense.

By industry and close application, he studied law, literature and history and was admitted to the bar in 1868. About this time he came to Kansas and helped on the Topeka Commonwealth and other papers—as the legal practice in those

days was scant. Thus he developed his talent for writing and editing.

In 1871 he came to Council Grove and for seven years was the editor of *The Democrat*, but afterward devoted his entire time to the law, and at the time of his death was the dean of the Morris county bar.

Mr. Maloy was notably a fine example of the self-educated man—being well read in law, literature and history. He was a versatile writer and author of an interesting history of Morris county, which appeared by chapters in Council Grove papers, also of numerous magazine articles of historic character. His history of Morris county should be brought down to date and published in an enduring form.

My earliest recollection of him goes back to my school days, and the old Council Grove Library Association of the 70's, when he was a leader in debates, original papers and programs of that literary society which did so much to elevate the standard of general intelligence among the young lawyers, doctors, teachers, students and others of that pioneer period.

His native wit, fund of anecdote, varied experiences, extensive reading, refined literary taste and general character of good fellowship made him useful, companionable and popular with both young and old. That organization was the forerunner of the literary societies, clubs and libraries of historic Council Grove, and a great boon to intellectual development when few Kansas localities had such privileges; and much of its success was due to Mr. Maloy's assistance.

While younger in years, it was my privilege to meet Mr. Maloy in many capacities—opposing lawyers in court, candidates for the same office, in literary societies, historical work and writing; and during all that time, we always maintained a warm personal friendship—as shown by the fact that as mayor he appointed me city attorney. He was always popular with young attorneys, for he sympathized with their early striving upward for practice and preferment and delighted to help them when possible.

As I look back upon those old days and our thirty years association as neighbors in the same ward; in legal practice and the hurly-burly of political strife; and in all the ups and

downs of civic development, I love to think of Mr. Maloy as a rare type of the editor, writer, scholar, lawyer and friend—a kind and courteous gentleman of the old-time school.

“We shall not see his like again.”

Topeka, May 3, 1921.

GEORGE P. MOREHOUSE.

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## Mrs. Anna Huffaker Carpenter

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Since this story was written, the only member of the Huffaker family who resided in Council Grove, Mrs. Anna Huffaker Carpenter, passed away. In the noontide of life, with so many



## THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

trials, disappointments and sorrows conquered and having kept the faith and fought a good fight, she was called home April 12, 1921.

For nine years she had been a widow, and her whole life was wrapped up in that of her five children, Homer, Margaret, Fanny, Elizabeth and Frederick. Possessed of a quiet, gentle disposition and always optimistic, she was a part of the life of her children and their friends. She maintained a splendid courage to the last. She was public-spirited and was living and planning for Home-Coming events, when she would have her brothers, sisters, children and old friends with her in her home, the historic old Mission. Death claimed her ere all her plans materialized, but though she is gone, to those who loved her and for whom she lived, the consolation abides that the virtues which endeared her in this life will linger in memory until it seems "There is no death. What seems so is transition."

L. M. B.

May 21, 1921.



MRS. MARY SPENCER

THE STORY OF COUNCIL GROVE ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL.

HISTORY  
of the  
HOME COMING  
to  
COUNCIL GROVE, KANSAS  
June 27 to July 2, 1921.

Celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary  
of Wm. Becknell's Pack Train that passed through  
Council Grove in 1821 and made the first successful  
trip to Santa Fe, N. M.

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By Mamie Stine Sharp.

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Council Grove, Council Grove!  
An hundred years has passed away  
Since caravans of traders gay  
First stopped to rest beneath these trees,  
Whose leaves still quake in ev'ning breeze.  
Let's Hail! these sturdy pioneers  
And others coming with the years,  
Who wrought so worthy and so well.  
We love their names and deeds to tell—  
Council Grove!  
—To Pioneers by George Pierson Morehouse.

**History of  
THE HOME COMING  
to  
Council Grove, Kansas  
By Mamie S. Sharp**

The Home Coming of June 27 to July 2, 1921, is now a memory and has become a pleasant and long to be remembered historical event in the history of our city. The daily and weekly press carried stories of each days programs and in reviewing this event, which is more than passing moment, I have been impressed that a concrete, concise history would be welcomed by many citizens and old settlers, both resident and non-resident, also it should be preserved in the files of our newspapers and State Historical Society for future generations to read.

The book "The Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail" and the Home Coming were the production and idea of Mrs. L. H. Brigham, who is the daughter of the late John Maloy. She conceived the idea of perpetuating the history of Council Grove as her father had of Morris County.

This book of 140 pages is replete with facts, dates and incidents vital to the history of this community. It contains many cuts showing historical places and old land marks, Kaw Indian chiefs and warriors of renown. But what is of lasting human interest are the pictures of many of the pioneer men and women who founded our beautiful little city. Well written and interesting as her little book is, the author did not need to soar afar into the realm of fancy or draw upon her imagination, for few towns possess as much historical interest as Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail. It is full of interesting events from the day when Wm. Becknell in 1821, led the first pack-train along the broken trail, which is now our Main Street, to these later days of 1921 when we celebrated that event by the Home Coming. This event was the second centennial celebration in the State of Kansas. The other was at Pawnee <sup>Village</sup> ~~Rock~~ in 1906 when they celebrated the 100th anniversary of Col. Pike's raising the Stars and Stripes at that place. *in Republic Co.*

The Civic club under the leadership of its president, Mrs. Brigham, assisted by the Commercial Club, American Legion, Auxiliary, Literary Clubs, Ministers, Superintendent and teach-



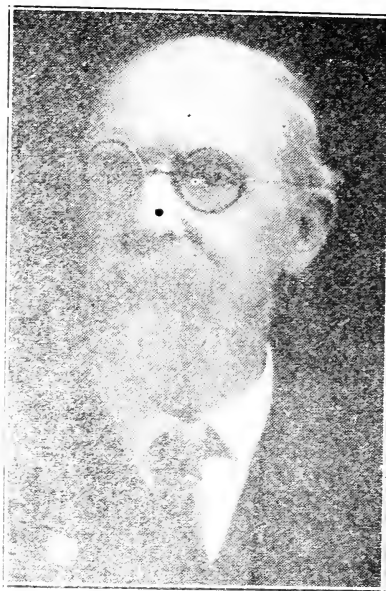
MRS. LALLA BRIGHAM

Chairman Home Coming Committee

ers of our city schools, Mayor, City Commissioners, old settlers and citizens carried out the plans of this event which was no small undertaking. But so well did the Chairman, Mrs. Brigham, do her work, aided by her efficient helpers, that the biggest undertaking our city ever witnessed was put over without a hitch or failure. The managing committee were: Mrs. Brigham, chairman; R. M. Armstrong, first vice chairman; E. D. Scott, second vice chairman; Mrs. Mamie Sharp, secretary; Mrs. R. C. Durland, treasurer; T. W. Whiting, Henry Craven, Worley Perry, Mrs. B. F. Cress, Mrs. A. R. Zimmerman, Mrs. Joe Jones. Mayor Pemberton, W. F. Shamleffer, W. H. White, John Allen and Tom Allen, welcoming committee.



E. D. SCOTT



R. M. ARMSTRONG



MRS. MAMIE SHARP



MRS. R. C. DURLAND



MAYOR TUMBERTON



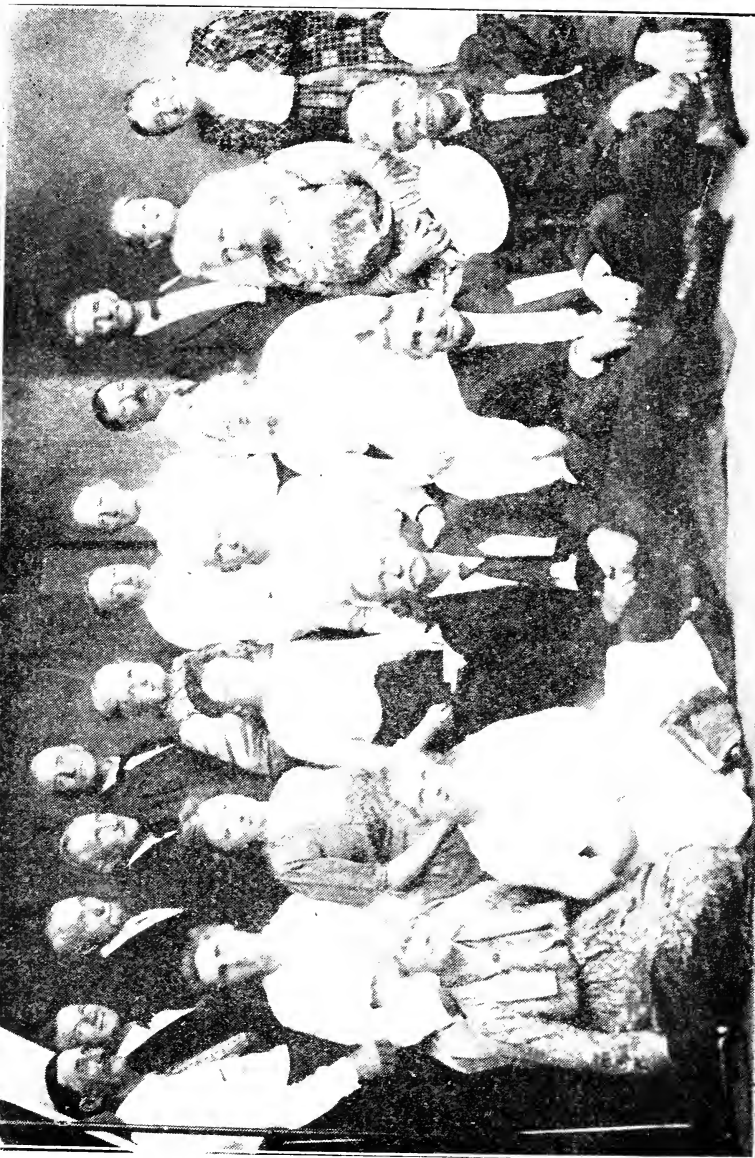
WORLEY PERRY



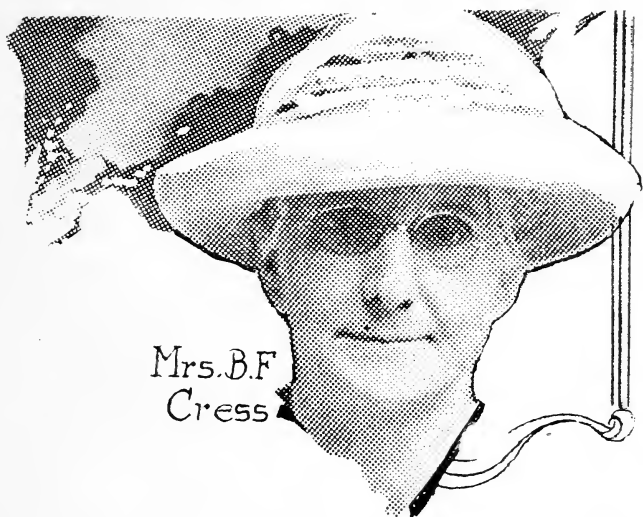
T. W. WHITING



MRS. A. R. ZIMMERMAN



Picture taken during the Home Coming of old settlers who attended the Brown Jug in early days.



The town was in gala attire for this great week. Everyone for months past had planted flowers and vines and lawns were neat and trim. Even nature was in tune for we had cloudless June skies, such as smile nowhere else as in sunny Kansas. One outstanding feature which was unique and instructive to a degree were the decorations of the store windows. The business houses along Main Street had their windows decorated with antique articles, too numerous to mention. In one window we saw beautiful quilts, the handiwork of our grand mothers. Then there was the costume set off by the hoop skirt and shaker bonnet. The ball gown of some beauty long returned to dust, the Sunday bonnet of some fair matron fifty years ago. Old fashioned wraps and shawls and lace mitts were in evidence and the ladies who had charge of this display seemed to be transported back to the 50's and 60's of the nineteenth century, so great was their taste in arranging these figures. Mrs. R. C. Durland, Mrs. E. D. Scott, Miss Georgia Smith and Mrs. Dell Peterson were on this committee. In some of the windows there were old fashioned jewelry, old utensils, fire arms used in Trail days, books and dishes over one hundred years old. There was a wedding outfit brought from Bavaria fifty years ago. It was hand made and belonged to the mother of Anna Eckhoff. There were old news-

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papers and in nearly every window were pictures of old settlers and scenes and several of old buildings that have given way to new ones. The window displays were a constant source of delight to young and old during the week. The following program was carried out during Home Coming week:

**JUNE 27**—Monday evening, Commercial Club Reception at High School Auditorium.

**JUNE 28**—9 a. m., Auto ride, visit to Council Oak. Story of the treaty, Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse.

2:30 p. m., Club reception at Cottage House.

Tuesday night, 8 o'clock—High School Auditorium.

### PROGRAM

Music, Chorus; Poem, "Council Grove," Geo. P. Morehouse;

**Part 1**—The Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail, Mrs. L. H. Brigham; Old Time Melodies, Mrs. R. H. Morehouse, in costume; Play "Back to the Old Home Town"; Music, Chorus; **Part 1**—Pictures of Old Settlers and Old Scenes.

**JUNE 29**—7:00 a. m., Breakfast on Belfry Hill; Story of the Hermit Priest by John Maloy, rendered by Geo. P. Morehouse; Wednesday 2:00 p. m.—Stella Opera House. Concert—Musicians of 1921; Reminiscent Meeting, Mrs. J. M. Miller presiding; Talk—When I left Council Grove forty years ago—Mrs. Alice Brown Yeager. This meeting was an open meeting and all old settlers gave some incident of early days. Wednesday, 8 p. m.—Music, Old Songs by Chorus; **Part 2**—Story of Council Grove, Mrs. L. H. Brigham; Songs—Old Time Melodies, Mrs. R. H. Morehouse; Historical Pageant, by School Children; Music, Chorus; Pictures, **Part II**.

**JUNE 30**—9:00 a. m., Memorial Service to Old Settlers, conducted by Company C, in charge of Capt. Geo. Peck; Prayer, Rev. Bronston; Address, Rev. W. H. Comer; List of Old Settlers who are buried in Greenwood cemetery, Rev. Williams; Decorating graves, led by R. M. Armstrong and W. F. Shamleffer, W. H. White. Thursday, 10:00 a. m., Visiting Day at the Mission for Old Settlers and Old Settler guests. Thursday, 4:00 p. m., Visit to Custer Elm; Poem and Story of Custer, Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse; Visit to Padilla Monument, address, Father Reidy; Talk, Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse. Thursday, 8:00 p. m., Music, Chorus; Entertainment by pupils of the Brown Jug and Graded School in 50s and 60s, Mrs. J. M. Miller presiding; Talk as teacher and pupil of both schools, Mrs. J. M. Miller; Story, Passing of the

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Little Brown Jug; Play, Grandmothers Stories, by the granddaughters of today; Duet, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson; Cheyenne Raid Anna Louise Miller; Silver Threads Among the Gold, Mrs. Sharp; Pictures.

FRIDAY, JULY 1—Old Settlers Picnic in City Park; 10:00 a. m., Parade led by President of the Day, W. F. Shamleffer, and Mayor Pemberton, Marshalls of the Day, W. H. White, R. M. Armstrong, John Allen, Tom Allen; Followed by Old Settlers who lived in the City of Council Grove before 1870.

### PROGRAM

11:00 a. m., at Park. Music by band; Invocation, Rev. Sypolt; Welcome to Old Settlers, Mayor Pemberton; Address. M. E. Leatherwood; 12:00, Dinner; 2:30 p. m., Music, band; 2:30 p. m., Opened by Chairman of Afternoon Program, M. E. Leatherwood; Kaw Indians, A. W. Stubbs; Responses—"Trails," Geo. P. Morehouse; Churches, Rev. G. H. Cotton; Schools, J. J. Haney, Music; The Press, M. F. Amrine; The Bar, H. E. Snyder; Clubs, Mrs. B. F. Cress; 5:15, Baseball game between North and South side merchants.

JULY 2—Reunion Day.

Monday evening, June 27 at 8 o'clock the first event of the Home Coming, a reception was tendered the visitors, old settlers and the public by the Commercial Club. This function was given in the High School Auditorium, where all subsequent meetings took place. The decorations in the Auditorium were beautiful beyond description. A central dome from which streamers of red, white and blue reached to the side walls. Festoons of flags representing all nations, most prominent of all, Old Glory, the dates 1821-1921 marking the centennial celebration everywhere in evidence completed the decorations. This act of thoughtfulness on the part of the Commercial Club was thoroughly appreciated by all present.

Three pictures painted by Mrs. Chas. Dillon were among the decorations. They were the Kaw Mission built in 1850, The Brown Jug School House, 1857 and the Strieby Blacksmith Shop, 1860. Mrs. Dillon will hang these pictures in the Historical Room in the Library.

A reception committee greeted the guests and a fine musical program was rendered during the evening. Mr. C. W. Black presided. He was assisted by Rev. W. T. Williams, pastor of the Congregational church. An orchestra with Dr. E. R. Swain

at the piano, Mrs. Kenneth Dodderidge, Miss Nira Brigham and Wreatha Debitt violinists, played several selections during the evening. Mrs. C. W. Debitt and daughter Wreatha sang a duet. Mrs. Dodderidge and Miss Brigham each played violin solos and Mrs. Lowell Woodside a vocal solo. A quartette of young ladies from the High School delighted their hearers. They were Misses Helen Snow, Eva Alexander, Thelma Ward and Beulah Moore. A Maypole dance trained by Miss May Harvey, with Minnie Lee Marks at the piano, was given by dainty little maidens, garbed in the style of their grandmothers, with hoop skirts and pantalettes. With quaint steps and stately measure these little girls delighted the audience. Punch and wafers were served.

As enjoyable as this was to all, the most pleasant memories of that first evening will be the meetings and greetings between old families and school mates who had not met for many years. Tuesday morning, June 28, an auto ride which had been planned by T. W. Whiting, was enjoyed by all the guests and many of the citizens. A long line of autos visited all places of interest and the guests were taken to the new Garfield school, where Mrs. Mattie Harris, the principal, assisted by Mrs. W. B. Clark, Mrs. Coltrane, Mrs. J. S. Loy and others, dispensed hospitality to all comers. From here they went to Charlie Crimm's yard to visit the Historic Oak, where the treaty was signed in 1825 and from which Council Grove received its name. Here, under the spreading branches of this grand old tree, Rev. B. N. Sybolt led in prayer and then introduced Mayor Pemberton, who formally opened the Home Coming, with a short address of welcome. Mr. Pemberton then introduced Mr. George P. Morehouse to whom the City of Council Grove is indebted for so much of its historical data and whose research has given us so much of value regarding this Council tree. Mr. Morehouse gave a complete history of early life along the Trail and graphically described the Treaty under this tree. His poem "The Council Oak," was beautiful and this opening historical event of the Home Coming was fully appreciated by all present.

At 12 o'clock Chapter H, P. E. O. Sisterhood gave a luncheon at the home of Mrs. Lena Snow, to all visiting and resident P. E. O's. The out of town P. E. O's were Mrs. P. J. Potts, Uplands, Calif.; Mrs. R. S. Davidson, Lawrence, Kansas; Mrs. Lester Keith, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. J. M. Miller, Kansas City, Kansas; Mrs. Lura Keith, Manhattan, Kansas; Miss Emma Harvey, Odgen.

Kansas. This was an interesting program. Mrs. Woodside and Miss Helen Snow sang a duet, Miss Rosalie Brigham a piano solo.

Mrs. Woodside read letters from absent members and Mrs. Brigham read the history of Chapter H from the time of its organization in 1903 to the present time. Mrs. Hattie Isbell was toast mistress and the committee in charge of the luncheon and Home Coming activities were Mrs. Pearl Harvey, the president, Mrs. J. J. Rhodes, chairman, Mrs. Gilman, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. McCrabb, Mrs. Jaillite, Miss Myrtle Loomis, Mrs. Woodside and Mrs. Opal Wilson.

At 2:30 o'clock the Women's Clubs of the city gave a reception at the Cottage House. Through the kindness of Mrs. Mead and Mrs. A. J. Marks, in graciously opening this beautiful place, this reception was one of the ideal events of our Home Coming. One becomes conscious that here were the elements which constitute an ideal social occasion. Beautiful surroundings, music, flowers, beautiful women and lovely gowns, wit and humor and best of all meeting friends old and new. The presidents of the various clubs, with Mrs. B. F. Cress, chairman, were hostesses of this occasion. Mrs. E. E. Root of the T. P. M. Club, Mrs. Sam Feigley, Nautilus; Mrs. John Linn, Progressive; Mrs. George Peck, Philomathian; Mrs. Pearl Harvey of the P. E. O. Sisterhood and Mrs. L. H. Brigham of the Civic Club were in the receiving line. Mrs. J. M. Miller gave an interesting talk, Mrs. Woodside sang a solo, with Miss Nira Brigham playing a violin obligata. Mrs. Kenneth Doderidge played the violin.

Tuesday evening the Auditorium was filled to its capacity. Community music was led by Prof. R. D. McKee with Mrs. Adam Marks at the piano. Mrs. Mamie Sharp, who presided as chairman, briefly sketched the history of the Home Coming and welcomed all to our city. Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse read his original poems, "Council Grove" and "On the Neosho," which were highly appreciated. He also made a short talk regarding the historical significance of the Home Coming. Mrs. R. H. Morehouse of Topeka, a former resident of Council Grove, appeared in costume and sang such old time songs as "Evalina," "Annie Laurie" and "Ben Bolt" to the delight of the audience. Prof. McKee and Mrs. Debitt sang the old time duet "Oh When We Two Were Maying." Then the playlet entitled "Back to the Old Home Town," written by Mrs. Lalla M. Brigham. It was pre-

sented by young folks of today, impersonating well known characters about town and those who came to the Home Coming. The play was admirably presented and was witty and clever. The impersonations were true to life and created much merri-ment.

The first scene was the meeting at the Katy depot of Alice Brown of Texas, impersonation by Marguerite Clark and Eliza Mather of Wyoming impersonated by Dorothy Amrine. They came to attend the Home Coming and arrived on the same train but did not recognize each other until after they reached Council Grove. They walked down to the Missouri Pacific depot when Arvin Dunn (Charles Moser), Frank Moriarty (Burton Harvey), Albert Simcock (Norman Strieby) came in on the train. Bettie Robbins Painter (who was impersonated by Mary Louise Brigham, rushes up and greets the guests. She gives all the news of the Stenger boys, Dillon, Hammond, and Huffaker girls and Connie Sager. She points out Elwood Sharp, (Robt. Rhodes,) who limps across the stage. Then John Rhodes impersonating Hon. Geo. P. Morehouse of Topeka, came off the train in his Palm Beach suit and sailor hat, which he tips to the audience as gracefully as the original himself could have done. Wreatha Debit, Minnie Lee Marks, Thelma Barth, Albertine Scott, Marie White and Katherine Crowley represented the officers of the clubs of Council Grove. Nell Cress, representing her mother as secretary of the Civic Club, introduced Leo Marlow as Mayor Pemberton, who gave an address of welcome, handing over a huge iron key to the city's guests. This key was made for this occasion by James Sewell. The key was accepted by Alice Brown, who suggested singing "The Gang's All Here." Donald Coffin furnished the band music and Max Elliott was porter. It is no reflection upon the merit of the performers to mention especially Master John J. Rhodes, four years old, who impersonated the dignified and scholarly Hon. Geo. P. Morehouse. He was the star of the evening and all who participated in this play gladly laid the laurels of success at his feet.

A. W. Simcock, a native of Council Grove but now living in Kansas City, was instrumental in having picture slides made of 150 old settlers, scenes of by gone days and places of historic interest. We were indebted to the Methodist church for the use of their picture machine. These slides were thrown on the screen to the delight of all. Many faces shown had vanished from our

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sight many years ago, some so long that few were left to recognize them. As they appeared, one by one, it seemed like a message from old friends of the days gone by. Among them were Seth M. Hayes, the first white man, and many others who helped make Council Grove. There were early day buildings and street scenes. The Hays House, now Arway Hotel, as it was built in 1857, the old bridge, the Brown Jug, the first church building, Indian chiefs, the three Indians who guided Mr. Shanleffer in the early 60's on one of his trading expeditions out west, the plat of the town in 1872, the first automobile and several pictures of our present day citizens dressed in the styles of the 50's and 60's. These pictures were the thought of A. W. Simcock who donated their use to the entertainment of guests during the Home Coming. They were made by the Thompson Slide Co., of Kansas City. No feature of the Home Coming was more appreciated than these pictures of old settlers and old scenes.

The breakfast upon Belfry Hill, June 29, 1921, will long be remembered by those who attended. It was a perfect June morning. At our feet stretched the beautiful Neosho Valley, still veiled in the mists of morning. The songs of birds furnished an orchestra, the greetings of friends, new and old, added to our pleasure. The breakfast was served al-fresco. The literary clubs of the city had this affair in charge and competent committees were everywhere to see that the guests were well served. The hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Black stood open and from it issued a procession of comely matrons and maids not bearing libations to the Gods but steaming coffee to about three hundred for breakfast.

After breakfast Mr. Morehouse read from the original manuscript, the story of the Hermit Priest who in 1862-63 lived in the cave in Belfry Hill. This story was written by the late John Maloy and is not only enjoyably viewed from a literary standpoint, but is accurate historically and is finely conceived and graphically told. Mr. Morehouse gave a brief account of his knowledge of the author's story and presented the manuscript to Mrs. L. H. Brigham, daughter of the late John Maloy. He then called on Mr. Leon D. Mather, who related his knowledge of the Hermit and told of his experience as a boy when he frequently visited the cave. He gave a most valuable contribution relative to the history of the Hermit Priest whom so many have come to regard as a pleasant myth. Mr. Mather

described the priest, his personal appearance, his dress and food. He told of the Priest's visit to the little brown school house and his addressing the pupils, of a coat of mail he wore and of many conversations his father had with him. Mr. Mather's talk was invaluable for it served to make real to many a fact of historical importance to our town. He became a reality not a legend and his cave not a place of the imagination but a real refuge for the hermit of the plains.

Mr. Morehouse then recited his poem "The Old Bell," which describes the old bell which stood for so many years on Belfry Hill.

Dotted here and there on the blue grass yard, where a few short years ago flourished the rosin weed and prairie grass, were picturesque groups being photographed, for future days and souvenirs of a most happy memory.

Wednesday afternoon, June 29th, at 2:30 o'clock, through the courtesy of Mr. W. R. Bratton, the Stella Theatre was given over to the musicians of our city who gave a concert to our visitors. Our beautiful Opera House never showed to a better advantage and the audience was appreciative and attentive. Mrs. Mamie Sharp, chairman on music, presided. The following program was given:

Violin solo, Nira Brigham; vocal solo, Helen Snow; vocal solo, Mrs. Debit; piano solo, Mrs. A. W. Marks; vocal solo, Mrs. L. N. Woodside; violin solo, Mrs. Kenneth Dodderidge; musical reading, Mrs. Edwin Anderson.

The Reminescent hour, which followed, was presided over by Mrs. J. M. Miller, who called W. H. White, W. F. Shamleffer, R. M. Armstrong, A. W. Simcock and Mrs. Genevieve Mather Munson, of Eldorado, to the stage and told them each in five minutes to relate some reminiscence of other days. How fast they did talk! Mr. White told of his arrival in Council Grove in 1857, when but a mere boy and of his subsequent trip across the plains to Santa Fe, with a caravan. Mr. Shamleffer, who has been mayor of our city half a life time, gave some interesting and amusing history of business deals of the days gone by and some of his experiences with the Kaw Indians with whom he traded. Mr. Armstrong told of his entry into Council Grove in 1865 by stage and described Main street of that day. He told us that our pretty residence streets were then but cow-paths, grown high with weeds, that the cows wore bells so they

might be found. Mrs. Munson, who was Jennie Mather in her school days, told of some amusing and daring pranks which she and some of the staid matrons played upon their teachers.

Mr. A. W. Simcock, who came to our city in September, 1857 on his birthday (as he put it) felt so happy that he played his famous Grasshopper Waltz, which he composed during the scourge of 1873, much to the delight of his old friends. This waltz was the work of Mr. Simcock when he was only sixteen years old. Mrs. Miller added to these interesting tales in her usual charming manner and many events of a historical and personal nature were mentioned at this most enjoyable meeting.

Wednesday evening the program was presented to a crowded house. Rev. G. W. Cotton of the First Presbyterian church presided. Mrs. B. F. Cress, on behalf of the Civic Club, told of the pleasure the club was experiencing in being instrumental in giving this event to so many old residents of our city.

Mrs. Morehouse sang "Bonnie Sweet Bessie," and "Comin' Thru the Rye." The pages dedicated to the old settlers, by Mrs. Brigham, in her "Story of Council Grove" were read by Mrs. Mamie Sharp. Mrs. DeBitt then sang "Some day I'll Wander Back Again," the audience joining in the chorus, Prof. McKee conducting the Community singing. A historical stage pageant was then presented. The monologue of this pageant was written by Mrs. L. H. Brigham and recited by Miss Marguerite Clark. This monologue described all the important historical events in the history of Council Grove in their order from the time Coronado passed through Kansas in 1542 when Priest Padilla accompanied him, to June 1921, the present time. The children of our city schools bearing banners with name and date of each historical event put on this pageant. As the monologue progressed, there came upon the stage, taking their respective places, Priest Padilla, 1542; Wm. Becknell, 1821; The Commissioners and Indian Chiefs, who made and signed the treaty of 1825; Kit Carson in hunting shirt and bowie knife; Gen. Fremont, Josiah Gregg, Seth M. Hays, The Hermit Priest, the Kaw Indians, Squaws and Papposes, all appropriately garbed. The Flood, Fire and Drouth were there also, in short all the important happenings were depicted by character carrying suitably inscribed banners. The effect they presented cannot be described, but as we looked on that forest of banners, each representing an event of great importance, we realized, as never before, of

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what toil, sacrifice and service our state and communities are builded. As Miss Marguerite Clark greeted the Twentieth Century which was represented by Helen Haney; Carolyn Blim as 1821 and Mary Cansada Figley as America and Anna Louise Rhodes as 1921 came on the stage. June, 1921, was represented by little June Fleming, a winsome little miss of four summers, the grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Fleming, one of our old and honored families. The following children represented the different epochs of Council Grove history: Norman Strieby, Charles Moser, Robert Rhodes, Marion Jaillite, Milford Springer, Erlene Jaillite, Ingobord Anderson, Ruth Anderson, Lynera Burris, Billie Strieby, Vera White, Max Elliot, Paul Elliot, John Anderson, Shirley Dillon, Frederick Carpenter, Marabeth Strieby, Genevieve Crowley, Lucille Anderson, Helen Anderson, Leo Rhodes, Burton Harvey, Russell Jaillite, Mary Amrine, Eugenie Marlow, Albertine Scott.

The same children and banners were used in the historical section of the parade on Old Settlers Picnic Day. Mr. Simcock showed the second half of the pictures of old settlers and old scenes.

Those who rest in our beautiful Greenwood, sleeping peacefully through these swiftly passing years were not forgotten. Thursday morning, June 30, Rev. Comer of the M. E. Church South, who was pastor here for many years, assisted by Rev. Oliver Bronston, of the M. E. Church and Rev. W. T. Williams, of the Congregational Church, conducted a memorial service for the old settlers who had passed on. Rev. Comer's address was filled with pathos such as only one who labored among the pioneers could give. Rev. Bronston offered prayer and Rev. Williams read a list of the dead. Capt. Peck of Co. C and some of the members, led by the band, had charge of decorating the graves. R. M. Armstrong, W. H. White, W. F. Shamleffer, B. R. Scott and many other pioneers wended their way through the silent city, where a sprig of evergreen was placed upon the green mounds of the men and women who fought adversity in pioneer days that we today might enjoy our blessings. As this simple service was reverently performed it seemed as if the majestic pines and cedars, which shade so many of their graves sighed a requiem of assent and satisfaction, as if they knew that these whose graves they guard are still to memory dear.

The Historic Mission, the home of the late Mrs. Anna Huf

faker Carpenter stood hospitably open all day Thursday, June 30 to welcome all old friends and citizens. Mrs. Carpenter had planned for this and her children and brothers and sisters, who came back to the old home for this event, did all in their power to make it one of the most enjoyable and memorable functions of this never-to-be-forgotten day. The occasion which afforded much pleasure to old friends and school mates carried with it a note of sadness, the memory of those who in times past had made these old stone walls ring with laughter and whose voices are heard no more. The officers of the Civic Club, assisted by Mrs. Fletcher Collins, Mrs. E. D. Scott, Mrs. A. G. Campbell Mrs. Throp and Mrs. Lura Keith, received and served at this reception.

This all day reception was well attended and appreciated by citizens and guests. At four o'clock, a goodly number of autos were at the City Library to proceed to Custer Elm, whose story was beautifully told in verse by Mr. George P. Morehouse. As he stood beneath the branches of this noble tree reciting his poetic tribute to this monarch of a forest long vanished, we realized that one does not need to journey to far off New England to see historic elms for we possess one as truly historic. There was a large crowd assembled around Custer Elm at this time and the address made by Mr. Morehouse told the history of the tree and of the heroic military life and death of its former owner, General George A. Custer. Seeing Major Potts in the crowd, mention was made of the fact that the Major, an old Morris county citizen, had fought with Custer upon Virginia battle fields and had come from Upland, California, to participate in the exercises. It was brought out that the Custer Elm was one of the largest elms in the United States, being over sixteen feet in circumference and about one hundred feet high.

Mr. Morehouse spoke of our Council Oak being listed in the Hall of Fame for trees and that he was making an effort to get the Custer Elm recognized. The following poem, "The Custer Elm," written by Mr. Morehouse and dedicated to this occasion, was read:

## THE CUSTER ELM

By George Pierson Morehouse

Among my giant forest friends,  
 "The Custer Elm" stands;  
 When wintry winds have stripped its leaves,  
 Its branches look like hands,  
 Which beckon me to tell its tale  
 To ages yet to come;  
 For, though it's stood an hundred years  
 And many more—'tis dumb;  
 But what a tale it would unfold,  
 Could it speak out in accents bold.

The Custer Elm's a famous tree,  
 Part of Old Council Grove,  
 And sheltered redmen from afar  
 Who from the plains would rove;  
 And pioneers of long ago,  
 Who now are bent with age,  
 Remember it before the cars  
 Retired the Concord stage;  
 And marvelled oft at its great girth  
 And ages since this tree had birth.

Beneath this towering forest tree,  
 With branches spread'ng wide,  
 I'll sit me down and rest awhile—  
 My thoughts on past abide.  
 A hero of the Civil War,  
 An Indian fighter bold,  
 Once owned this tree and wood-land glen,  
 Which he had bought with gold.  
 This tract of land and this old tree,  
 From Uncle Sam to him in fee.

He thought to live near it some day,  
 When war and strife would cease,  
 And plant and reap in fertile fields  
 And watch his herds increase.  
 A quarter-section stretched around,  
 With woods and bottoms free,  
 He loved to think that in the midst  
 There stood this grand old tree.  
 To all it cast a grateful shade,  
 And many sought this pleasant glade

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In course of time, in far northwest,  
On Little Big Horn's stream,  
Our hero fought his farewell fight  
And all his plans—a dream.  
His wife, in sorrow, sold the land,  
And with it went this tree;  
But though the town has spread around,  
It's saved for you and me.  
Forever, let this monarch grow,  
Mute monument of long ago.

After Custer Elm exercises the line of march was resumed which led to the top of the highest hill in Morris county, upon whose summit stands the pile of stones which has always been there as far back as white man's memory goes. This pile of stones marks the supposed burial place of Father Padilla, the first Christian martyr of America. Father Reidy delivered an eloquent address upon the results to mankind of such lives as that of Father Padilla and men of his character who have made history. He spoke of the significance of "first things," the first discoverer of a country, Columbus, the first settlements of the pioneers, the first president of the United States, Washington, and the first Christian martyr, Padilla—and what distinction and honor it was to reverence his memory and to be considered the locality where he sacrificed his life in laboring for this. Mr. George P. Morehouse followed and gave much authentic history and data relative to Padilla, his life and work, also his death. Mr. Morehouse has made an exhaustive research upon this subject, examining the ancient homestead records of Spanish authorities. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Morehouse read his poem, "Padilla, the Priest of the Plains." This was one of the most impressive exercises during the Home Coming. There was something so unique and far reaching in the sentiment and scenery, the beautiful day, the city in the distance, the ancient pile of rock, the commanding eminence, the Catholic priest and general memorial character of the event, linking the present with the long ago. One could not hear the words that were spoken and view that rude monument that marks the last resting place of a great and good man without feeling our duty and obligation to carry on in this day the work so nobly begun.

Thursday evening, June 30, the men and women who attended the Little Brown Jug in the 50's and 60's gave the first part

of the entertainment. Mrs. J. M. Miller, who is remembered as Miss Mamie Dillon and who filled the niche as both pupil and teacher in that old historic edifice, conducted this part of the entertainment. It took the form of an old fashioned Friday afternoon, when the girls and boys spoke "pieces." The boys and girls who sang and spoke this night had white hair and wore specs and while their voices may not have been as blythe as in the days gone by, they sang with spirit such songs as "Weaver John," "Whistling Farmer Boy," "The Old School House," "Three Blind Mice." Mrs. A. W. Marks accompanied them upon an honest-to-goodness melodeon and A. W. Simcock, as in days of yore, beat time. Mr. W. H. White, who attended the Brown Jug in 1858, the first year school was held in the little school house, was on the stage. He is the only person living in Council Grove who attended the school that year. Albert Simcock recited a sketch entitled "Philosophic Remarks by a Lanquid Englishman," which caused much merriment. He also played his "Grasshopper Waltz." Leon Mather declaimed an old poem called "The Old Council Grove Band," published by a newspaper forty years ago. Mrs. Mamie Sharp read part of the story of the Little Brown Jug written by Mrs. Brigham several years ago when the building was moved. Anna Louise Miller recited the following poem, written by A. W. Stubbs for the Home Coming. Mr. Stubbs is the son of Major Mahlon Stubbs who had charge of the Kaw Indians at the time of the Cheyenne Raid in 1868.

### CHEYENNE RAID OF 1868.

Gather around me, my little friends,  
 And hear my story until the end.  
 'Tis a story thats true of the long ago;  
 My Grandmother told it, I know it is so.

Way back in the Sixties, just after the war,  
 When scenes were enacted we all abhor;  
 A messenger came to our little town  
 And this is the message he brought down:

The Cheyennes are coming! Run! Flee for your lives!  
 They are armed with guns and bowie knives.  
 Ye men of the Grove arm quick for a fight,  
 I saw the Indians, I know I am right.

Their faces were painted a crimson red,  
A war bonnet streamed from each warrior's head.  
They will slaughter your children and steal your wife!  
Flee, my countrymen, flee for your lives!

But the Cheyennes were enemies of the Kaws  
Whom they charged with breaking the Indian laws;  
It was them they sought, not the whites,  
To seek revenge for their former fights.

Through the town they rode nor touched a hair  
Of the frightened people dwelling there.  
But a war cry arose as they passed on down  
And crossed the waters of Little John.

The peaceful Kaws all out of breath,  
Came rallying forth to fight to death,  
The wild Cheyennes who dared invade  
The land where the father's bones were laid.

When the Cheyennes saw the Kaws show fight  
They soon betook themselves in flight.  
While Council Grovites from the hills  
Enjoyed the scene of the battle thrill.

The calamities if none I have missed  
Were an Indian wounded in the wrist.  
And this dear children is all I know  
Of Council Grove and the Indian woe.

Mrs. Mamie Sharp sang "Silver Threads Among the Gold," Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Davidson delighted the audience with the duet "When You and I Were Young Maggie." This ended the school program which was interspersed with interesting remarks by Mrs. J. M. Miller. Mr. Leon Mather and sister, Mrs. Genevieve Mather Munson, sang a Scotch song that had been sung in their family for four hundred years, which was very much appreciated.

Those taking part in this entertainment who attended the Brown Jug in early days were W. H. White, Sr., Otto Hebrank, Eugene Hebrank, Mary Hebrank Metzger, Aggie Stevenson Strieby, Betty Robbins Painter, John Allen, Tom Allen, Laura Schmidt Wyler, Ann Schmidt Hardy, Sarah Hammond White, Mamie Dillon Miller, Carrie Hammond Jacobs, Aggie Huffaker

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Wismeyer, George Huffaker, Leon Mather, Genevieve Mather Munson, Jas. Stenger, Albert Simcock, Kit Stenger, Coonie Steele Sager Elwood Sharp, John Schmidt, George Simcock, Arvin Dunn. Mrs. Cora Chase and Mrs. Alice Armsby who were teachers in early days were among the pupils on the stage. After the school was dismissed Mayor Pemberton on behalf of the citizens of Council Grove, thanked Mr. A. W. Simcock for his part in the entertainment of furnishing the pictures.

"Grandmothers Stories," written by Mrs. Brigham and told by the granddaughters of pioneer families was the next feature. The young ladies were our very sweetest and prettiest "buds" and were gowned for the very effective setting, an afternoon tea, with Dorothy Amrine hostess. Through the courtesy of Durland & Block, the stage was furnished artistically with wicker chairs, settees and electric reading lamp.

Stories and real jokes were told of pioneer days and people. The girls who presented this play were Dorothy Amrine, Dorothy Rees, Marguerite Clark, Mary Louise Brigham, Nell Cress, Thelma Barth, Marie White, Katherine Crowley, Wreatha Debitt, Opal Welch, Minnie Lee Marks, Anna Louise Rhodes and Albertine Scott. At the close of this play Mr. Simcock's slides were shown again.

Friday morning, July 1st, the day of the Old Settlers Picnic, the streets were filled with people to witness the most beautiful parade ever seen in our town. Churches, Sabbath Schools, clubs, business firms, lodges, Co. C, National Guards, American Legion, Auxiliary, county officials, in short every one did their best to make the parade a memorable one. The floats ranged all the way from extreme beauty to the useful and highly significant for the occasion. The historical section depicted the history of Council Grove in every epoch. This part was carried out by the school children. A prairie schooner filled with barefoot children, its bale of hay, its lean horse, chicken coop and spotted lop-eared dog with the legend on its side, "Kansas or Bust," carried many of the spectators back to pioneer days. This was furnished by the Garfield school under the supervision of Mrs. Mattie E. Harris. The parade was led by the Council Grove band with Mayor Pemberton and W. F. Shamleffer, president of the day, following. Several cars filled with old settlers came next and then the historical section followed by floats. The parade started at Wood and Hockaday and went west to

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Washington, east on Main street to the Hospital and back to Union, then north to the park. Mr. Worley Perry and Henry Craven had charge of the parade and are to be congratulated on their success. Many visitors who had seen other similar parades pronounced ours both beautiful and interesting. The line of march ended at the city park where the president of the day, W. F. Shamleffer, introduced Mayor Pemberton who delivered an address of welcome.

A picnic dinner was enjoyed by several hundred people who afterwards spent a couple of hours visiting. About 2:30 Mayor Pemberton introduced M. E. Leatherwood, chairman of the day, also speaker of the occasion. Mr. Leatherwood delivered an address worthy of the occasion in his usual happy style. The following topics were fittingly discussed in this order: The Kaw Indian, A. W. Stubbs; Trails, Mr. George P. Morehouse; Churches, Rev. G. H. Cotton; The Bar, H. E. Snyder; Clubs, Mrs. B. F. Cress.

A fitting climax to this enjoyable afternoon was the presentation to Mrs. L. H. Brigham of a massive silver loving cup by Mr. Morehouse, as a token of appreciation from her old time friends and fellow citizens for her work and efforts which made the Homecoming possible and such a success. Mrs. Brigham responded to this presentation by thanking the people for this token of their appreciation of her efforts and expressed her gratitude to the citizens for falling in with her plans in this undertaking and was making it a success. She told of the great pleasure it had been to her to make possible the reunion of old settlers and old friends.

The following inscription was engraved on the cup:

1821—1921

COUNCIL GROVE CENTENNIAL

Lalla Maloy Brigham.

From Old Time Friends in Recognition of Services as Chairman  
Celebrating Wm. Becknell's Caravan Pack Train over the Santa  
Fe Trail in 1821



A base ball game between the Fats' and Leans (business men) closed the day. The game was managed by L. N. Woodside. The late Lee A. Moser was umpire for this game and dressed to fit the part with broad cowboy hat, linen duster and two six-shooters furnished much amusement for the crowd. As this was the last time Mr. Moser participated in any public affair his many friends, although mourning his loss will always retain the memory of his jovial remarks and the enjoyment he derived from the game.

Saturday, July 2nd was Reunion Day and while many of the guests had to leave early Saturday morning, others availed themselves of the opportunity to visit with old friends.

Friday night Mrs. L. Mead and Mrs. A. J. Marks invited a number of citizens, old settlers and guests to meet and visit for the last time during the Home Coming. The out of town guests especially enjoyed this.

Such an event in any community as the Home Coming means hard work on the part of all connected with it in any way. All of the men and women who served on the committees deserve

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praise for their efforts and support, but it is no reflection upon them to emphasize the work of R. M. Armstrong and E. D. Scott who were assistants to the chairman, Mrs. Brigham. To these two more than any others the Civic club and its President, Mrs. Brigham feel grateful. Mr. Armstrong has a wonderful fund of history stored up in his unusual retentive memory which was of great value in planning and carrying out the Home Coming. Mr. Scott as the all around practical business adviser was beyond praise. Mr. Scott with the aid of Mrs. Durland handled the finances.

Mr. Whiting, Mr. Perry and Mr. Craven were helpful advisers on the managing committee. Mr. Whiting arranging all auto rides and Mr. Perry and Mr. Craven carrying out plans for the parade. It is impossible to name all who helped with the different activities of the Home Coming. Each club, church or organization appointed their own committees. Mrs. Mamie Sharp, Prof. R. D. McKee, Mrs. A. W. Marks and Mrs. Debbit managed the music, Mrs. E. R. Swain and Mr. L. H. Brigham assisted Mr. Scott and Mrs. Durland in selling and collecting tickets. Superintendent Haney was faithful in his cooperation. Harry Rees managed the picture machine and Gus Pearson looked after the auditorium. Mrs. Cress was chairman of Club activities. The Commercial Club, T. P. M.; Nautilus; Progressive; Philomathian, Civic and P. E. O., their presidents and committees too numerous to mention, all came in for their share of praise. The band boys, Co. C. American Legion and Auxiliary, Lodges, O. E. S. Rebekahs, Business men, Ministers, teachers won the appreciation of the managing committee.

Mrs. Flora Davis had charge of the registering of old settlers and guests. The Council Grove history committee, Mrs. A. R. Zimmerman, Mrs. S. L. Karr, Mrs. George Bolton, Mrs. A. L. Pullins, Mrs. Flora E Davis, Mrs Joe Jones and Mrs. R. C. Durland were active in selling the Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail. The net proceeds which goes to the Civic Club. The training of the monologue parts of the pageant and the two plays presented during the Home Coming was due to the efforts of Mrs. J. J. Rhodes and Miss Rosalie Brigham who staged the plays and drilled the young people in singing the songs which were parodies appropriate for the occasion. Mrs. R. H. Morehouse wrote the parody on the Little Brown Jug. Miss Jessie Sharp, Miss Sue Irvin and Supt. J. J. Haney displayed great

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skill in training the school children to represent the different epochs of Council Grove history in staging the pageant. The mayor, Mr. Pemberton and all speakers at the picnic were appreciated by all who heard them.

We are also most grateful to our out of town guests, Mr. Geo. P. Morehouse, A. W. Simcock, A. W. Stubbs, Mrs. J. M. Miller, Mrs. R. H. Morehouse, Mr. Mather, Mrs. Munsen, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Davidson who added their talent to help make the Home Coming a success

Mr. Morehouse deserves special mention as he did so much towards making the Home Coming a success. His knowledge of local history was of great interest to all citizens of Council Grove.

To our local newspapers the Republican and Daily Guard we owe a great deal of the success of the Home Coming. Mr. E. D. George of the Republican and M. F. Amrine of the Daily Guard gave free space for months before the event so that their readers were informed regarding the plans for the Home Coming. During the Home Coming week each days program was published in both papers. M. F. Amrine and L. N. Woodside of the Guard and Miss Louise Brown and O. R. Laster of the Republican were untiring in their efforts to give the event publicity. The managing committee appreciates this courtesy on the part of our Council Grove newspapers.

The events of Home Coming Week have become history. As years go by and we recall events of the past and as we count them one by one on memory's golden chain, the most beautiful and wonderful of all will be the memory of that week June 27 to July 1st, 1921.

### MONOLOGUE OF HISTORICAL STAGE PAGEANT

Written by Mrs. L. H. Brigham. Read by Marguerite Clark

Before my eyes there passes a picture, and while I am dreaming of long ago, in the scenes that pass before me there are events, places and people. First I see this broad land of ours, when only the Indians trod the plains, I see now what is Kansas, before the settlement of Jamestown, Va. or the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers on New England shores. The tall grass, (untrodden except by the fleet footed native and buffalo) covered the land. Through that broad, broad expanse of prairie there was a change in the landscape and a silver stream winding

in and out among the hills was met by a smaller stream. They were both lined with elms, oaks, weeping willows and other beautiful trees, and there were numerous groves of the same trees in the valley through which these streams ran. The violets, sweet Williams, lark spur and blue bells dotted their green banks and vied with the sunflower and golden rod of the prairies beyond in adding beauty to the landscape. Kind nature left a pathway skirting the hill east and west of the larger stream and molded its banks less precipitous. This made possible the famous crossing of the Neosho and gave birth to the Trail which today is our famous Santa Fe Trail. The golden gleam of the sunlight, the silvery rays of the moon, and the purple shadows told the same beautiful story to their primitive surroundings in the long ago as they do now when civilization has invaded the scene that forms the background of the City of Council Grove today. I close my eyes again and view the panorama that passes and see the scenes and events that lead up to the twentieth century. In 1541, 380 years ago, Coronado, a Spanish explorer in search of gold, broke the first pathway across the plains of Kansas. His followers and Indian guides came from Mexico and they visited the strange tribes of Indians who inhabited Kansas at that time. With him was the Priest Padilla whose object was to carry a message of the gospel to the nomads of the new country. They sojourned with the Indians near the present site of Junction City. Coronado whose quest for gold was not rewarded, returned with his party to Mexico. The following year in 1542 Priest Padilla returned to the Quiverians. They received him kindly and made him welcome to the crude village. He spent several months with them and hearing of a war like tribe south of Quivera (later called Kaws) he started in a southeasterly direction hoping to reach them, with the same message he had for the Quiverians. According to Spanish records and reports thirty-five miles southeast of Quivera on Mount Padilla, one mile southwest of Council Grove, he met his death either by meeting hostile Indians or by some of the Quiverians who followed for the purpose of keeping him from going into the camp of their enemies. Thus, the first Christian Martyr of America, Priest Padilla, met his death while in search of the tribe, who three hundred years later dwelt in their tepees on the hills surrounding Council Grove, and the crude pile of stone marks the center of the reservation, hence the name Mount Pad-

illa. We know other cities claim the grave of Priest Padilla, but this monument of stone has been there since the earliest record of white men passing through here, so we feel our claim justified until it is proven false.

Nearly two centuries later in 1719 a Frenchman named Dis Tisne passed through Morris county. In 1804 La Lande, a French Creole, was the first known white man to camp at the Neosho ford. Purcell, another Frenchman, crossed the ford a year later.

One hundred years ago in 1821, William Becknell, from Franklin, Mo., led the first successful caravan through Council Grove to Santa Fe, New Mexico. It consisted of pack mules. Again in 1824 Wm. Becknell made another successful journey across the plains. On both of these expeditions he cut his way through the timber and underbrush and crossed the Neosho Ford at our Main street bridge and blazed the trail that was only a path, at that time, and is now the Santa Fe Trail. The report to Congress of the 1821 and 1824 expeditions led to the Council of Indians and white men August 10, 1825, when President John Quincy Adams appointed Col. George C. Sibley, Benjamin Reeves and Thomas Mathers to meet with the Chiefs Great and Little Osage Indians to procure a right of way through their lands so a road could be marked through to New Mexico. This Council with the Indians took place August 10, 1825, under the Old Oak in Charles Crimm's yard. The name Council Grove was given to this place at that time.

Kit Carson with his band of Scouts loitered at the Neosho Ford in 1827 and cut the name Council Grove on a piece of buffalo hide and nailed it to a tree.

In 1828 Dr. William Connelly made the first survey of the right of way of the Santa Fe Trail. In 1831 Josiah Gregg took the first large caravan through Council Grove to Santa Fe, N. Mexico. In 1843 General John Fremont with his guide, Big John, and exploring party, camped at Fremont Springs, one mile east of Council Grove. Big John Creek was named for this guide.

In 1846 Col. Doniphan and Col. Price crossed the Neosho Ford on their way to the Mexican War and rested their Missouri Volunteer Regiment here. This march of 4,000 miles from Leavenworth to the land of the Aztecs, has no rival in the marches of the world. One of their soldiers died while they were camped

here and was buried on the side of Belfry Hill. Thirty-six years later his remains were taken to the National Cemetery at Washington.

The picture changes in 1847 and the Government moved the Kaw Indians to the country surrounding Council Grove; and until 1873 it was known as the Kaw Reservation. The same year Seth Hays, the first white man to locate in Council Grove, came here and built the first log cabin. An interpreter for the Indians named Ackers was here for a while. This man had been at the Council, under our famous Council Oak in 1825, and was one of the interpreters at that meeting. Years later he gave a description of the tree and told the number of yards it was from the crossing and that it was located on a rise of ground. Thus the coming of Seth Hays started the settlement which is now Council Grove. Other settlers followed, and in 1849 T. S. Huffaker came as an interpreter of the Indians. The next year the Old Kaw Mission, still standing on the west bank of the Neosho, was built. As teacher of the Indians and of the first white school in Kansas, Mr. Huffaker placed the corner stone of the school System of Council Grove and Kansas.

The next picture shows the struggling log cabin and the first church organization, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the first store building called the Last Chance, and the Hays House still standing. In 1858 the Little Brown Jug, that stood for sixty-one years was built, and paved the way to better educational advantages. Two years later when the Santa Fe Trail hummed with caravans and when trade with the freighters and Indians made Council Grove a frontier trading post, the stone black-smith shop at the foot of Belfry Hill was built, and oxen drawing their supplies for Santa Fe trade, received their last attention from a blacksmith at this shop.

In 1859 the Kaws raided Council Grove and in 1860 there was a drought. In 1861 our men in blue and gray joined the great Civil War. Now enters the romantic tale of the Hermit Priest who with his dog "King", sojourned here for five months. Years before he had left his home in sunny Italy with a shadow on his name, he turned his face toward the west and after reaching the United States went from Indian tribe to Indian tribe teaching them the power of the gospel and the rudiments of civilization. His cave on the hill where he counted his beads and played soft airs on his mandolin, is still an historic shrine.

General Custer camped under Custer Elm in 1867. Soldier Hole, down the river, received its name from his soldiers who used the place as a swimming pool. June 1st, 1868, the Cheyennes raided the Kaws at Council Grove. In 1869 our first church building was erected, the M. E. Church South. It stood for fifty years. After the Trail days ended in 1866, we looked forward to the first railroad and the M. K. & T. was completed in 1869.

In 1873 the Kaw Indians were removed to the Indian Territory. In 1883 the Missouri Pacific ran its first train through Council Grove. The fire of 1886 wiped out our business block on North Main street, west of the Arway Hotel. During the last ten years of the 19th Century our town began to improve. We platted new additions, a water system, electric lights and street railway added prestige to our little city. Looking back over the span of years the 19th Century has recorded many important events, and we greet the 20th Century with a volume of noble deeds of good men and women who during the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's have helped make Council Grove.

The flood of 1903 was a disastrous event. Since that time progress has marked time with the years and now in 1921 we have nine and one-half miles of paving, a sewer system, a Carnegie Library, a fine theatre, three modern school buildings and seven churches, miles and miles of cement walks, comfortable homes and business houses. And Council Grove, with its modern improvements, natural surroundings and historical significance is a town worthy of respect and admiration.



